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A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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THE ILLUSTRATED PRICE-LIST

is one of the most effective ways of securing prompt and direct business, particularly from buyers abroad. For instance, a large buyer in some busy centre thousands of miles away from London has placed before him

An Attractive Inset

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In the Winter Issue, 1912,

with the Publisher, should write to him at once, as the publication date is January 27.

SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

The fallacies of Christmas weather lore are treated by "Xrayser II." (p. 47).

The article entitled "Verminitis" describes a non-scheduled vermin-killer (p. 53).

Notes on dispensing difficulties, by Mr. Harold Wyatt, are included in our Winter Session reports (p. 47).

Besides the Reviews and New Books on pp. 53-54, we print notes regarding two recent works of interest to chemists.

Two important decisions by United States Courts on Food and Drugs Act are against the official interpretation (p. 49).

In a note on copaiba, Mr. E. J. Parry indicates points concerning tests for consideration by the B.P. revisers (p. 51).

Our optical contributor gives some practical hints on the methods of adapting spectacles and eye-glasses to the face (pp. 51-52).

Some interesting observations on the nature and number of the advertisements in our Coloured Supplement last year are given on pp. 48-49.

We continue our *Diary* series of articles on "The Pharmacist as a Fancier's Specialist." The present one is on cats, dogs, and caviars (p. 52).

The suggestions of the Pharmaceutical Council as to the basis for pharmaceutical reciprocity have been made public, and are printed on p. 50.

Portraits and biographical notes on the following chemists are given in this issue: Mr. W. Easterbrook, Johannesburg (p. 38); Mr. F. R. Squire, San Remo (p. 43); and Mr. J. F. Burnett, Preston (p. 57).

We print the Medical Benefit Section of the Insurance Act as given in the Statute, and offer reprints of it to subscribers (pp. 44-45). In an editorial note reference is made to the representation of pharmacy on the Advisory Committee and to the medical trouble (p. 50). Mr. J. B. Francis also deals with the subject (p. 57), as well as a medical man (p. 64).

News of the Week.

Mme. Curie has appendicitis (p. 36).

The latest store prices are mentioned on p. 34.

The Queensland Pharmacy Bill is progressing (p. 37).

The Chinese drug-trade figures in our news from the East (p. 36).

Atropine given for sparteine has caused a sensation in Belgium (p. 36).

Black antimony as found on the Canadian market is reported on (p. 37).

A curious chemist-company difficulty has been mentioned in a bankruptcy court (p. 39).

South African regulations for poisonous articles similar to those of Great Britain are proposed (p. 38).

Mr. Benjamin Hirst, of Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Ltd., Leeds, was on Thursday elected President of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

Mr. William Day, the founder of the Southern Drug Co., Ltd., died last week. We also record the death of Dr. Casana y Leonardo, of Madrid (p. 41).

King George V. is conferring Knighthoods on Mr. Joseph Beecham, of St. Helens; Mr. Herbert Parsons, of Ashton & Parsons, Ltd.; and Dr. G. H. Savage, brother of a well-known Brighton pharmacist, which with other honours are mentioned on pp. 42-43.

Trade and Market Matters.

The 1s. 6d. per lb. tax on the collection of buchu on South African Crown lands has been confirmed, a copy of the official order being printed on p. 62.

Business has opened quietly on the markets, but next week conditions will be normal again. Quicksilver has been irregular, declining 7s. 6d., and advancing 5s. The makers of bismuth salts announce that the "resale" clause has been withdrawn; they have also recast their scheduled prices. Hull castor oil, lemon oil (spot), clove oil, and acetanilide are in buyers' favour (p. 60).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Messrs. Newton & Co., chemists, Yeovil, have added an optical department to their business.

The architect for the new chemical laboratories to be erected at University College, London, is Mr. F. M. Simpson, F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Architecture.

Alderman Henry Potter, Mayor of Stepney, and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., attended the entertainment given by the staff of Messrs. Selfridge & Co., Ltd., to the poor children of Stepney last week.

The Royal Dental Hospital and London School of Dental Surgery has been admitted by the University of London as a School of the University in the Faculty of Medicine (in dentistry only) for a period of five years as from October 1, 1911.

The Cerebos salt works at Greatham, near West Hartlepool, were almost destroyed by a fire which broke out on January 3. Three hundred persons are thrown out of employment. The damage done amounts to some thousands of pounds.

The private house at 57 Penshurst Road, South Hackney, London, N.E., of Mr. Farmer, of Messrs. Fredk. Farmer & Co., vermin-killer manufacturers, was ransacked by burglars recently. A considerable quantity of jewellery and money was taken.

"It is anticipated that a crisis will take place about March next, and a strike must inevitably follow," so says the Secretary of the Chemists' Assistants' Reform Union in writing to "Reynolds' Newspaper" of December 31 re the employing of female labour in large retail drug-stores.

At Port Sunlight this week Sir W. H. Lever, Bart., in distributing the Co-partnership Trust dividends, said the amount of co-partnership certificates issued in 1911 was 298,731*l.*, and the amount of dividend to be distributed totalled 28,702*l.* The dividend on the ordinary certificates was at the rate of 10 per cent., and the amount deposited in the Savings Bank in 1911 was 15,787*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, the average being 14*l.* per head.

A circumstance which is probably unique in connection with trades subsidiary to the drug business is the fact that Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., brush makers, 75 Farringdon Road, London, E.C., have cricket clubs for their employes in both London and Melbourne. We have received a copy of the Australian fixture-card, from which it appears that the season is now in full swing.

Store-prices.

The drug-department is given rather less than 2½ pages in the members' circular of the Civil Service Supply Association, Ltd., for January. Of these one page is devoted to advertising cod-liver oil emulsions at 8½*d.* per 6-oz. bottle and 1*s.* 4*d.* per 12-oz. bottle. Another half-page goes in giving prominence to ladies' ornamental hair. The recent additions to stock are:

C.S.S.A. brush-powder and sponge-powder, 3½*d.* per box; C.S.S.A. formalin and menthol lozenges, 3*d.* per tube; lacto-bacilline tablets, 3*s.* per box; Lister's fumigator, 10*d.* each; C.S.S.A. mosquito lotion, 10½*d.* per bottle; C.S.S.A. eff. lithia citrate tablets in bottles (25), 7*d.*, and 50 1*s.*; C.S.S.A. toilet-paraffin, violet perfumed, 4-oz. bottle 10*d.*, plain 4-oz. 4*d.*, 8 oz. 7*d.*, 16 oz. 1*s.*

The reduced prices given for hot-water bottles range from 3*s.* 9*d.* for 7 inch by 10 inch to 7*s.* for 12 by 16.

Insects and Disease.

We are informed that it is the intention of the Colonial Office to despatch to the Federated Malay States a trained entomologist for the purpose of studying, from the medical point of view more particularly, the intimate connection between certain insects and the propagation of diseases of both men and animals in tropical countries. The work will be undertaken under the immediate auspices of the scientific Committee which was appointed some time ago by the Earl of Crewe when Secretary of State for the

Colonies, under the Chairmanship of the Earl of Cromer. The Committee, which meets quarterly at the Colonial Office, includes in its *personnel* Colonel A. Alcock, C.I.E., F.R.S., of the London School of Tropical Medicine; Dr. Bagshawe, Director of the Sleeping-Sickness Bureau at Burlington House; Colonel Sir David Bruce, F.R.S.; Sir John Macfadyen, of the Royal Veterinary College; Sir Patrick Manson, Chief Medical Adviser to the Colonial Office; Mr. R. Newstead, of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; the Hon. N. C. Rothschild; Lieutenant-Colonel D. Prain, F.R.S., Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew; and Mr. S. Stockman, Chief Veterinary Adviser to the Board of Agriculture. It is proposed to extend the investigations now being made by Lord Cromer's Committee, which were originally confined to tropical Africa, to the self-governing colonies, including Canada, Australia, and South Africa.

Contracts.

Wisbech Guardians.—Mr. M. Hill, chemist, Wisbech, for drug and antiseptic applications.

Rotherham Guardians.—Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., for Izal at 24*l.*, and disinfectants at 69*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

Lewes Guardians.—Mr. J. C. Lloyd, chemist, Lewes, for the year's supply of drugs and surgical appliances.

Leighton Buzzard Urban District Council.—Mr. H. Samuel, Ph.C., appointed chemist for three months.

Leicester Town Council.—T. E. Butler, Son & Co., Leicester, for the year's supply of oils, paints, and colours.

Warwick Guardians.—Mr. C. P. Pratt, chemist and druggist, Market Place, Warwick, for the supply of drugs at 22*l.* 2*s.*

Leicester Guardians.—T. E. Butler, Son & Co., Leicester, for the supply of medical and surgical sundries, disinfectants, soaps, etc.

Salford Town Council.—Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., for medical, surgical, and dispensary requisites, 110*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*; Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., for drugs, meat extracts, etc., 372*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*; Parke, Davis & Co., for serums, 303*l.*—all amounts for contracts being proximate.

Liverpool Notes.

On New Year's Day business was a half-hearted affair in Liverpool. The chemists' shops in the city were almost all opened all day, while their suburban brethren treated it as a Sunday, mostly opening for a short time in the evening.

Sir Edward Evans has issued a circular letter to the trade, asking pharmacists to allow him the pleasure of nominating them as members of the British Pharmaceutical Conference and giving them all a hearty invitation to meet him at Edinburgh.

Those Liverpool chemists who made special Christmas window-displays were well pleased with their increased "returns." Although many expected very little business owing to the late strike, they were very agreeably surprised. One chemist reports an increased turnover of 40 per cent. upon last year's Christmas takings.

At present extract of malt and malt oil are being cut to death in Liverpool. In some districts the ½-lb. jars have been discarded, and the 1-lb. and 2-lb. jars "cut," at 9*d.* and 1*s.* 3*d.* respectively. These cost 7*s.* and 13*s.* per dozen locally. Even the "largest retail cash chemists in the world" get 1*s.* and 1*s.* 8*d.* respectively without any trouble.

Several chemists are putting up a good fight at the forthcoming election to the Council of the Liverpool Chemists' Association. The "ordinary, common or garden, hard-working middle-class chemists" hope to have soon a working majority on the Council, in preference to the "semi-professional and scientific recluses" who have so long held sway.

Mr. L. Moreton Parry, Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool, Birkenhead, and District Retail Pharmacists' Committee, issued a report on December 24 reviewing the work accomplished. The Committee held six meetings, and two deputations visited the House of Commons. It is stated that "all the work hitherto done is but a

preliminary skirmish compared to the battle ahead," and it is suggested that the Committee might work together with the local branch of the British Medical Association, which covers the same ground.

Manchester Notes.

The parcel-carrying department of the Manchester Corporation Tramways, which is useful to small traders, made a profit last year of 2,484/.

The Salford Corporation officials have not yet succeeded in finding out from what source comes the oil which is running to waste and causing much trouble at the sewage works.

The strike of cotton operatives in North-East Lancashire towns is playing havoc with the chemists' trade in the district. Over 150,000 employes are locked out just when trade was beginning to boom and there was every prospect of good times ahead.

Now Christmas is over "sales" are being advertised by the large City stores in Manchester. Paulden's have a window full of bed-pans marked 11½d. each to clear. Also 3d. toilet-soaps at 1½d. each, 1s. per doz. Loofahs are also put forward as great bargains at 1½d. each. Lewis's are offering various well-known patent medicines at "ridiculous prices"—i.e., 2s. 9d. size for 1s. 11½d., etc., which happens to be their usual cut price.

It is proposed to inaugurate the movement for the formation of an Assistants' Association for Manchester, Salford, and district with a social evening in the form of a smoking concert, with music and refreshments, at the Clarion Café, Market Street, Manchester, on January 17. Assistants, apprentices, and all others interested should communicate with Mr. James Grier, The University, Manchester, who will be glad to receive offers of help and suggestions for the programme.

From Various Courts.

At the inquiry into the death of Henry Thomas Brown (47), who lost his life in connection with the experimental use, at the Chiswick Soap Works, of sodium peroxide for bleaching soap, a witness stated that deceased became enveloped in a sheet of flame which arose from a drum containing sodium peroxide. The jury found that the accident was due to water having got into the drum in which the oil and sodium peroxide were mixed.

At the North London Police Court on January 2, Frederick H. Seddon was again remanded on a charge of murdering a Miss Barrow by administering arsenic (*C. d. D.*, December 23, index folio 930). The chief witness of pharmaceutical interest was Dr. W. H. Wilcox, of the Home Office, who deposed that in all he found arsenic in various organs of Miss Barrow's body, and that he estimated the total amount present at 2.01 grains. In his opinion, a fatal dose had been taken less than three days before death. Mercury was also found in the body, but only in sufficient amount consistent with proper medical administration. In reply to Mr. Humphreys (appearing for the Director of Public Prosecutions), he said that preparations containing arsenic in poisonous doses can be quite easily procured.

IRISH NEWS.

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Brevities.

Mr. Hugh Crail, Ph.C., Upper Newtonards Road, Belfast, has dedicated a piece of ground on that thoroughfare to the public for street-widening purposes.

Owing to one of the medical officers having neglected to send for analysis on two occasions samples of medicines received, the Local Government Board has struck out the sum of 9/ 13s. 4d. from the claim for recoupment put forward by Londonderry Board of Guardians.

As a contribution to the controversy regarding the relative tolerance of the two religious parties in Ireland, Mr. James Barry, Ph.C., gives in the "Freeman's Journal" his experiences in regard to the purchase of the Burnaby Pharmacy, Greystones, co. Wicklow. He bought the

business from a Protestant, and states that so many were the difficulties he encountered because he is a Roman Catholic that he was compelled to dispose of it after six months, at a loss of 120/.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Cessio Petition.

The affairs of A. Wales Berry, chemist and druggist, 52 Victoria Street, Aberdeen, came before Sheriff Laing in Aberdeen Sheriff Court on December 30 on a petition for cessio, but after discussion the hearing was adjourned for a fortnight in the hope that cessio might be avoided.

Edinburgh.

"Squaremen" form a Corporation in Edinburgh, and although Dr. Lyon Wilson has just been appointed town surgeon, and Mr. W. S. McNab, chemist, Gordon Road, their dispenser, the Corporation has no connection with Bloomsbury Square, London.

There is a chemist who always gives his first customer each year the medicine or commodity required free of charge. This year, however, he was fain to alter the rule as the first request during 1912 happened to be from a stranger who wished change for a sovereign! The second entrant secured the stakes when a demand for a pound headache-powder was duly honoured.

In most quarters New Year business appears to have been decidedly better than has been the case for some time. That section of the public which was wont to purchase perfume (and has been decidedly "off" for a few years) has evidently, judging from some reports, returned to its first love. Ginger-wine essences are said to have sold in record quantities. At a local carnival the other day the writer, from his point of view in the gallery, could not help wondering if the Fates had sprinkled, like so many currants, representatives of the drug-trade among the less-favoured revellers. On a merry-go-round were seated a pharmacist and his assistant side by side, and the next horse but one bore a gentleman who is in business not far from suburbia. In full ceremonial canonicals, so to speak, another prominent man was exchanging seasonable greetings with hosts of passing friends; and one of the directors of a local firm had a youngster hoisted on his shoulder, who was apparently picking out pharmaceutical notabilities for his sire's enjoyment.

Glasgow and the West.

The demand for perfumes is much less at this season than in former years.

The employes of Messrs. Cockburn & Co., Ltd., have just given 16/ to local charities.

Mr. C. Cruickshank, chemist and druggist, Glasgow, has left the city to fill a situation with Messrs. Lewis & Burrows.

The South Side seems to be the happy hunting ground of chemists. Another pharmacy is being opened in the vicinity of Queen's Park.

The "Wigtonshire Free Press" contains the following biographical note of the late Mr. Richard Ker, chemist and druggist, Stranraer, whose death we notified last week (index folio 947):

Mr. Ker was born at Howes Farm, near Annan, on April 9, 1830. Kept at school for a longer period than was prevalent in those days, he began his apprenticeship in a chemist's shop in Annan in 1845. His apprenticeship completed, he thereafter proceeded to Manchester, and from thence to London, where, in a very large establishment, he acquired that intimate knowledge of his profession that stood him in good stead during a lengthy life. From London he proceeded to Castle-Douglas, where he carried on business on his own account for a few years, and ultimately, in 1863, having acquired the business of the late Mr. Fleming, he came and settled in Stranraer.

Claims against Mr. R. Ker's estate have to be led, led with Mr. John D. Ker, solicitor, Stranraer. Mr. William Ker is continuing the business as Richard Ker & Son.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

MME. CURIE is in a nursing-home awaiting an operation for appendicitis. She has just returned from Stockholm, whither she had been to receive the Nobel Prize.

THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF FRENCH PHARMACISTS has abandoned its intention of prosecuting the Medical Provident Society (*La Prévoyance Médicale*); negotiations between M. Vaudin, President of the Association, and Dr. Lutaud having terminated in an amicable agreement. The "*Prévoyance Médicale*" promises for the future neither to "stock, manufacture, exploit, sell, cause to be sold, nor patronise" any pharmaceutical goods.

THE OLIVE IN AFRICA.—Referring to the North African countries bordering the Mediterranean which are just now so conspicuously "in the public eye," a writer in the "*Figaro*" points out that the explanation of their importance in days gone by was that they were singularly favourable to olive culture. The tree was sacred to Athena, and under the Roman Empire fortunes were made in oil just as they are nowadays in soaps, petroleum, and other modern substitutes for olive oil, which was both a luxury and a necessity to the ancients.

THE SUPPLY OF MORPHINE.—M. Fortunat, a pharmacist's assistant, was put upon trial last week and was charged with having supplied morphine to a doctor's wife who was a regular customer at the pharmacy. She died three months later, and M. Fortunat was charged with "homicide by imprudence" and for selling poison without a doctor's prescription. The Tenth Chamber of the Paris Police Court found M. Fortunat, who did not appear, guilty, and sentenced him to two years' imprisonment and a fine of 20f.

HEALTH-RESORTS.—In connection with the effort to develop French health-resorts, the Inter-Parliamentary "Thermal and Climaterical Resorts" Group met at the Chamber of Deputies recently, M. Astier, Senator and ex-pharmacist, occupying the chair. Professors Robin and Fère and Dr. Bardet presented the resolutions passed by the recent Health-resort Congress. These referred to certain modifications desirable in the existing regulations which control the establishment of a "curetax," the creation at Paris of a Chair of Hydrology at the Faculty of Medicine, and of an Institute of Hydrology. The group authorised its Bureau (office-holders) to present these ideas to the administrative authorities, and, if need be, a draft Bill.

PHARMACY POTS.—M. Fialon, pharmacist, has presented further specimens from his remarkable collection of pharmaceutical pottery to the Paris School of Pharmacy. Some of these of unusual shape, chevrettes or syrup-jars, and a set of water-bottles, I noticed on the top shelves of Dr. Dorveaux's study, and two or three inscriptions were out-of-the-way—*e.g.*, "*Hydromel d'Hippocrate*," "*Oxymellite d'Edimbourg*," and "*Acetum 4 Voleurs*." The last recalls the fact that during the great plague at Marseilles in the eighteenth century four notorious thieves engaged in disposing of plague victims enjoyed such exceptional health that inquiry was made. They ascribed their immunity to the use of a disinfectant vinegar, which in consequence became popular under the name of "four thieves' vinegar."

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

SPECIALITIES IN SWITZERLAND.—The Speciality Committee of the Swiss Pharmaceutical Society is publishing a supplementary list of galenical preparations to be prepared and stocked in Swiss pharmacies. The list gives particulars of the component parts and the price and style of the preparations. The committee will supply the formulæ for these preparations free to all Swiss pharmacists. The measure is intended to combat the evils attendant on the prescribing of specialities in Switzerland. The committee has also drawn up a number of formulæ for specialities for counter-sale, which are only to be dispensed under a trade-mark name.

CAMPHOR CULTIVATION IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA.—In the *C. & D.* of May 25, 1907 (p. 798), an account was given of the results of examination of camphor oil produced by the Biologisch-Landwirtschaftliche Instituts at Amani, and more recently the results of distillation trials carried out at the same centre have been referred to. These experiments have been continued, and in a recent issue of "*Der Pflanzer*" the results of investigation of crude and steam-distilled camphors as well as of camphor oil produced at Amani are given. A firm of German drug-importers, to whom the samples were submitted, reported that the crude camphor was rather impure, but if more carefully prepared it would fetch about the same price as crude Japanese camphor. It was regarded as being suitable for the manufacture of celluloid. The steam-distilled camphor contained 15.7 per cent. of impurities, chiefly water, and it is stated that it would probably be more profitable to export the crude material than to re-distil it locally. The camphor oil contained 48 per cent. of camphor, and was valued at 120m. per 100 kilos., with light Japanese camphor oil at 70m. per 100 kilos.

POISONING-CASE.—A rather complicated case of poisoning has been before the public in Belgium for some months. A pharmacist received a prescription from a customer at Roclange for digitalin and sparteine sulphate pills, and after the patient had taken a pill he exhibited signs of poisoning by atropine. The doctor who was called took one of the pills and was also seized with the same symptoms. The pharmacist on being informed that the symptoms pointed to the substitution of atropine for sparteine, called his assistant, who said that the mistake must have been his, because the bottles containing the two alkaloids were similar and side by side in the poison-cupboard. Some time afterwards the authorities ordered M. Dulière, a pharmacy inspector, to seize the drugs in question, and M. Dulière in testing the sparteine found it respond to the test for atropine, and concluded that the alkaloid was a mixture. The pharmacist on hearing this, recollected that he had just before dispensed some "sparteine" from the bottle, and by means of the telephone and a motor-car was able to stop the patient from taking his dose of medicine; but his sister, who seems to have taken a dose just before to encourage him, was soon very ill. It was now apparent that these symptoms of atropine-poisoning, which had also been exhibited during two months by other customers as well, were due to the supply by the wholesale druggist of atropine in place of sparteine. One customer died, but the *post-mortem* undertaken when the discovery of the changed drug was made did not reveal the presence of atropine owing to the time that had elapsed. A further examination of the "sparteine" showed it to be pure atropine. The pharmacist now turned to the wholesale druggist who supplied him with the alkaloid, and the authorities took up the matter in the courts. The wholesale druggist was able to show that sparteine sent out to other pharmacists at about the same date was correct, but the statistics regarding his sales of atropine were not so conclusive, about 100 grams being unaccounted for. The evidence against the druggist was, however, insufficient, and he was acquitted.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

MR. L. S. MACPHAIL (Aerators, Ltd.) reached Colombo on December 14 from Burma.

MEDICAL AID FOR CHINA.—The "Oriental Druggist" states that the Japanese Red Cross Society despatched a party of twenty-nine doctors, pharmacists, and nurses to Hankow on November 12. They carried with them all necessities for their operations; they are to treat all sufferers without distinction of nationality.

ANTI-OPIMUM CONFERENCE IN F.M.S.—The fifth annual Anti-opium Conference was held at Seremban, F.M.S., from November 25 to 27, Mr. Khoo Wai Nam presiding. He referred to the success of the campaign in China for poppy reduction, which had astonished the world. He welcomed the agreement arrived at since last meeting whereby imports of Indian opium cease when poppy cultivation

ceased. Dr. R. M. Connolly appealed to the F.M.S. and Straits Governments to abolish the opium monopoly. It was decided to hold next year's Conference in Malacca.

POISONING BY OPIUM IN CHINA.—We note from the annual report of one of the leading missionary hospitals for Chinese in Shanghai that no fewer than 446 cases of attempted suicide by taking raw opium were treated in one year. It is quite a common thing for the Chinese to commit suicide when in great financial difficulties. Our Shanghai correspondent tells us of a case where a man took some opium in fruit, after a quarrel with his foster-mother, who had slapped his face in the street. His intentions were that his spirit should haunt her for the rest of her life. Fortunately, he was quickly introduced to a mission-hospital surgeon, who successfully brought the stomach-pump into play.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Arthur Hanson, one of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s staff at Shanghai, recently distinguished himself in a plucky manner. It appears that a large party of missionaries and other Europeans were coming down the Upper Yangtze in a number of native boats, when it was observed that one of the boats, which contained a lady and several children, had become disabled through the rudder having been carried away in a collision. The boat became unmanageable in the powerful current, and none of the other craft dared to approach fearing a similar disaster to themselves. Mr. Hanson, however, very luckily dived in with a tow-line, and with the aid of a number of coolies brought the boat under control.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

SALE OF COCAINE.—Dr. Dufresne and Dr. Campeau, who carry on drug businesses in Montreal, were last month sentenced to fine and imprisonment for selling cocaine otherwise than as prescribed by law. Both defendants appealed, and were liberated on bail.—The Montréal City Council have discussed a resolution requesting the Federal Government to prohibit absolutely the importation of cocaine. The matter was, however, postponed after some remarks by Alderman Gauvin, who, as a druggist, stated that the provincial law is working satisfactorily.

BLACK ANTIMONY.—Bulletin 225 of the Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, deals with black antimony. Mr. A. McGill, the chief analyst, reports that seventy-seven samples were collected. Of these twenty-one contained no antimony, nine consisted of very impure sulphide of antimony, eight impure sulphide of antimony, and thirty-nine were sulphide of antimony. The chief analyst states that black antimony is not defined by the British Pharmacopœia; but the purified sulphide is defined as antimonium nigrum purificatum. This is the crude sulphide separated from siliceous material and from arsenical compounds. Black antimony has not been official in the United States Pharmacopœia since 1890. In the seventh decennial revision of the U.S.P. it is thus described: "Native Antimony Sulphide, purified by fusion, and as free from arsenic as possible." Under the designated tests it is required to dissolve in hydrochloric acid, without leaving more than one (1) per cent. of residue. The United States "National Dispensary" describes it as dissolving in ten parts of hydrochloric acid, without leaving more than 1 per cent. of residue. Finlay Dun ("Veterinary Medicines") is also quoted, and the report says it is apparent that no exact standard of purity exists for this article. It is, however, quite certain that it should be essentially the sulphide of antimony, known as stibnite; and there can be no hesitation in describing the samples examined as adulterated when they contain no antimony whatever. Where foreign matter to the extent of nearly 50 per cent. is present, these are declared to be *very impure*; and where more than 5 per cent. of matters insoluble in hydrochloric acid is found, as *impure*. It is quite evident, reports Mr. McGill, that many of the adulterated samples, consisting as they do of metallic iron, silica, and carbon (graphite), have had an origin such as to

preclude the possibility of any honestly mistaken intent; and are entirely and knowingly frauds, not necessarily known as such to the immediate vendor, but certainly known to the original producer.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

New South Wales.

PHARMACY BOARD.—At the meeting on November 14 there were included among the chemists registered Mr. Owen Stanley Williams (G.B. Minor certificate 15,594) and Mr. James Cormack. A special meeting was held on December 5 for the purpose of considering applications for registration from those persons who neglected to become registered under the 1897 Act, although entitled to.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on November 14 it was reported that there had been received 1,300 copies of the "Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary" at a charge of 6d. per copy for 1,000 and 3d. a copy for the remainder. The wholesale houses are to be charged 8s. per dozen. Each member of the Society receives a free copy. The question of establishing a College of Pharmacy was brought up by Mr. Loney. It was felt that something could be done in conjunction with the University now that the Society has power to extend the scope of the Preliminary examination.

New Zealand.

WAMPOL'S EXTRACT.—An order has been issued prohibiting the importation into the Cook Islands of Wampole's extract of cod-liver oil, except under certain conditions. The reason given is that the proprietary contains 17 per cent. of alcohol, and in consequence is likely to be used as an intoxicating drink.

Queensland.

HEALTH BILL.—During the discussion in the Legislative Assembly of the Legislative Council's amendments to the Health Act Amendment Bill it was pointed out that a clause which prohibits the colouring, mixing, coating, etc., of substance so as to conceal its "true character and quality" seems to prohibit the coating of pills. The amendment was adopted, the question raised being left unsettled. Another clause prohibits the manufacture, sale, or supply of "any tubed nursing-bottle for infants' food."

PHARMACY BILL.—During the Committee stage of the Medical and Other Practitioners Bill a clause was inserted providing for the registration of homeopathic chemists who have been for five years carrying on business in Queensland, and giving power to the Minister to admit any person to the register who has been trained and possesses the qualification of pharmaceutical chemist but who for some reason failed to secure registration. The privilege which friendly societies have of selling and dispensing medicines is to be limited to those dispensaries registered before September 1, 1911. Shopkeepers are to be allowed to sell patent or proprietary or packed drugs without being deemed to be carrying on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist. The dental section of the Bill provides that a dentist may only practise dentistry in his own name, and the Dental Board is to consist solely of dentists, without medical representatives, as had been proposed originally. The Opticians' Board is in like manner to consist of opticians only. The Bill was read a third time on November 15 and sent to the Legislative Assembly.

Western Australia.

THE VETERINARY BILL passed its second reading in the Legislative Council on November 22. The Government is to appoint a board of five members for the registration of persons possessing the diploma of the Royal Veterinary College of Great Britain or such other institutions as may be recognised by the board. Any person who up to May 1, 1911, has practised for seven years in Western Australia as a veterinary surgeon is to be entitled to registration on passing an examination in stock diseases.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape Province.

PERSONAL.—Mr. J. Scott, chief accountant to Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., has accepted an important position with Messrs. Petersen, Ltd., of Cape Town. He is well known and highly respected in the drug-trade, and the best wishes of his friends accompany him in his new sphere.

WINDOW-DISPLAYS.—Mr. James Moore, of Cape Town, made an attractive window-display of the Colgate Co.'s products during the Christmas month. Keen interest is shown in the patent tins of shaving-powder, as it is a comparatively new line on the South African market.

Orange Free State.

DURING an outing of a party of Bloemfontein gentlemen at Glen, one of the party, a Mr. Bruce, was suddenly rendered helpless while swimming in the middle of the river owing to his left leg becoming twisted. Another member of the party, Mr. J. A. Dinwoodie, chemist and druggist, went to his assistance and managed, after much trouble and at the expense of a badly-sprained wrist, to get the drowning man ashore. Mr. Dinwoodie is attached to the C.S.A. Railway Medical Staff at Bloemfontein. He was well known for some years in Glasgow, being for a time with Messrs. Weir at Bridgeton Cross, and latterly in business on his own account in Duke Street. He went out to South Africa during the war, in failing health, but the country has set him up wonderfully.

O.F.S. MEDICAL AND PHARMACY COUNCIL.—The usual monthly meeting was held on December 8 at Bloemfontein, when the following were present: Mr. A. D. Ward (President) in the chair, Drs. S. M. de Kock, V. Manning, H. Tomory, and G. Usmar, Messrs. S. S. Hewitt, E. Whiteside, A. Fowlie, and the Registrar, Mr. R. C. Streeten. A lengthy discussion arose out of a letter received from the Cape Medical Council forwarding a resolution, in which they requested the Government to publish the proposed Medical and Pharmacy Bill with a view to enabling representations to be made by the professions concerned before the gazettement of the Bill. Though the action of the Cape Council was considered to have been inexpedient as the interests of the professions in regard to the resolutions passed at the conference held last year had been left in the hands of the delegates from the Transvaal Medical Council, it was felt that silence might be misconstrued by the Government, and it was therefore finally resolved that the Transvaal Medical Council be requested to represent to the Government the advisability of communicating to the Medical Councils the details of the proposed Medical and Pharmacy Bill with a view to an opportunity being afforded to the professions concerned of making to the Minister before the Bill is gazetted such representations thereon as may be deemed necessary. A letter from the Cape Pharmacy Board which was read to the meeting contained a proposal that regulations should be promulgated respecting the sale of poisonous articles throughout the Union similar to those recently enforced in Great Britain. The proposed regulations are as follows:

Sulphuric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, soluble salts of oxalic acid, liquid ammonia containing more than 5 per cent. by weight of free ammonia.

(1) It is required that each of these substances when sold by retail shall be distinctly labelled with (a) the name of the substance, (b) the word "Poisonous," (c) the name and address of the seller.

(2) The label shall bear distinctly printed thereon the additional words "Not to be taken."

(3) Any liquid substance to which these regulations apply shall not be delivered or sent out except in bottles or other containers rendered distinguishable by touch from ordinary bottles or containers.

(4) The regulations must be observed by all who retail the substances named, whether chemists, licensed dealers in poisons or not.

The President pointed out that the O.F.S. already had a poisons law, and in view of that he did not understand what was aimed at. It was resolved to postpone consideration of the matter till the next meeting of the Council to afford the Pharmaceutical Society an opportunity of discussing the question.

The following have been nominated as candidates for election to the vacancy on the Medical and Pharmacy Council, O.F.S., caused by the resignation of Mr. W. B. Jeffreys: Francis Carter, Ph.C. (Gt. Brit. 1879); Joseph Friedman, chemist and druggist (O.R.C. 1909); William Smalley Westlake, chemist and druggist (Gt. Brit. 1900). The election is fixed for January 31, 1912.

Transvaal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. J. Hull, representative of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., has just returned to Johannesburg from an extensive tour in Rhodesia.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—A new pharmacy, very elaborately fitted in oak and which reflects great credit on the proprietor, has recently been opened by Mr. A. W. Ashkanazy, chemist and druggist, in Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

Mr. W. EASTERBROOK, who has recently been appointed President of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, is a native of Durban, Natal, where he was born in 1870. He was educated at the High School, Durban, and apprenticed to Messrs. Reed & Champion there, but the last two years of his apprenticeship were spent at Barberton, De Kaap, Transvaal, where Messrs. Reed & Champion had opened a business at the time Barberton was booming as a gold-field. Returning to Durban in 1891 Mr. Easterbrook obtained an appointment with Messrs. Stranack & Williams, and in due course passed his qualifying examination and was registered in Natal, Transvaal, and O.R. Colony. He remained with Messrs. Stranack & Williams until 1903, when he went to Johannesburg and started business on his own account at the corner of Corrie Street and Op de Bergen, Fairview.



MR. EASTERBROOK.

British Trade with South Africa.

H.M. TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA (Mr. R. Sothorn Holland) reports that, according to official returns, the total value of general merchandise and Government stores imported into South Africa during the first ten months of 1911 was 31,774,000*l.*; while the exports of South African produce during the same period were valued at 47,116,000*l.* The figures for the corresponding period of 1910 were 30,927,000*l.* and 44,821,000*l.* respectively, the total trade in 1911 thus showing an increase of a little over 4 per cent. The imports of "general merchandise" increased from 28,638,000*l.* in the first ten months of 1910 to 30,169,000*l.* in the first ten months of 1911, and the share of the United Kingdom in these imports increased from 16,948,000*l.* to 17,492,000*l.* Proportionately, however, the United Kingdom share dropped slightly—from 59 to 58 per cent. The trade with the United Kingdom is believed to have been adversely affected to some extent by the recent industrial disturbances in this country, as not only was the execution of orders delayed, but orders were in some instances said to have been placed elsewhere, owing to the uncertain conditions which prevailed here. South Africa continues to offer an expanding market for British manufacturers; the increase in the imports is spread over a very large number of articles; the majority are the result of the generally enhanced purchasing power of the country and the development of agricultural and allied pursuits. Notable increases were shown in drugs, chemicals, oils, and the like. Mr. Sothorn Holland remarks that during a recent tour he was greatly impressed by the rapid progress of agriculture, improvement in the methods adopted by the farmers, and the manner in which private enterprise in this respect is being encouraged by the Union Government. The consequent growth of the various markets deserves the careful attention of British manufacturers.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Chain-stores.—The chain-store or company-pharmacy movement registers an advance every few months. Down in the relatively small city of Atlanta, Georgia, for instance, the group of stores bearing the name of Joseph Jacobs has recently increased from seven to ten in number. A competing group of three was absorbed bodily, and the work of assimilation is now in progress.

Drug Clubs.—During the last ten years nearly every city of prominence in the United States has organized a drug club, where the members of the pharmaceutical craft can meet socially and enjoy the ordinary features of club life. Handsome club houses have in this way been established in New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago. Now the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, has organized a drug club, which nearly a hundred druggists have joined.

Samples Distribution.—The chemists of Cincinnati have attracted attention by their recent decision to refuse the distribution of samples of a soothing syrup for the manufacturers of the product. A State law prohibits the distribution of these samples from door to door, and this has induced manufacturers to solicit the co-operation of the druggists. The Cincinnati druggists, however, hold views regarding the wholesomeness of soothing syrup, and they have agreed to have nothing to do with them.

A.P.H.A.—Mr. James H. Beal, who was practically made general manager of the American Pharmaceutical Association at the last meeting in Boston, has outlined a large movement for the development of the local branches of the organization. He thinks these will become the chief feeders of the A.P.H.A. in point both of membership and interest. He proposes to have the local branch in each town made the parent of the other local Associations, with the latter as sections or divisions. This will be justified, because the A.P.H.A. represents all branches of the trade and is the tent under which they may all gather.

Insecticides.—The Department of Agriculture has issued further leaflets giving decisions regarding the Insecticide Act, 1910 (see *C. & D.*, September 30, 1911, index folio 511). It is pointed out that these decisions and opinions only express the attitude of the Department in relation to the interpretation of the law and the rules and regulations, and they are published for the information of officials and manufacturers and dealers in an advisory rather than a mandatory spirit. The Department will not undertake to approve labels submitted to its officers, but points respecting the general character of labels will be published from time to time.

Dr. H. H. Rusby.—There has recently been an echo of the charges brought against Dr. H. W. Wiley and Dr. H. H. Rusby. It will be recalled that President Taft settled the former situation by vindicating both men. Now, however, a letter repeating the old charges against Dr. Rusby, and written by an obscure chemist in Staten Island, New York, has been given wide publicity. It is thought that the enemies of Dr. Wiley and Dr. Rusby stand behind the writer of this letter. The chemist in question is Alvin H. Warth, and Dr. Rusby has brought a suit against him for criminal libel. Mr. Warth denies having written the letter, and Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, to whom it was alleged to be addressed, may be called into court to prove the receipt of the communication.

Opium Supply.—A sensation has developed in San Francisco, California, with respect to the anti-narcotic traffic. The large number of opium-smoking Chinese on the Pacific coast makes the opium-supply question very difficult to handle. The Board of Pharmacy, charged with the duty of enforcing the anti-narcotic law of the State, has begun a vigorous campaign of prosecution, and it is now claimed that the Board has arrested the leader of the opium-ring. This man is nominally a druggist, and bought narcotics in immense quantities from the Eastern States; in fact, so large were his orders that he is said to have gone for some of his supplies to London. When the drugs were received in San Francisco they were sometimes shipped to Reno, the famous divorce colony in Nevada, and from there sent back across the border to consumers in San Francisco. In this way the transaction became interstate in character, and could therefore not be reached by the State laws of either California or Nevada.

A LAY VIEW.—"The Star" of December 23 had an amusing sketch headed "He Laughs Best." It pictured "a chemist surveying his empty shop on Xmas eve," to which the words were added, "No matter. Boxing Day will come."

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re Thomas Holme Yeomans, 24-26 Peartree Street, Goswell Road, E.C., Patent-medicine Manufacturer.—The first meeting of creditors under this failure was held at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Walter Boyle, Official Receiver, on January 2. The debtor, formerly a traveller in the biscuit-trade, had recently placed on the market "Ukala," a cure for asthma. He borrowed 150*l.* from a friend in connection with the venture, but did no good with it. Then in September 1911 the debtor commenced the manufacture of a cocoa-tablet which he styled "Lu-Co," and which was a compound of cocoa and sugar. A Mr. Gosset advanced 1,500*l.* on account of a one-third interest in the profits. The business was started, and three months later Mr. Gosset sued the debtor for the money advanced, and obtained judgment, whereupon the business was closed. In January 1911 the debtor formed Lu-Co, Ltd., with a nominal capital of 5,250*l.*, to acquire the process, machinery, plant, and leases, but the purchase was never completed. The debtor further, in February 1910, registered "Yeomans, Ltd.," with a nominal capital of 6,000*l.*, to deal with pills and an ointment. He sold the formula to the company for 3,000*l.*, the whole of which was allotted to nominees in respect of services rendered, money lent, etc. The debtor roughly estimates his liabilities at 2,000*l.*, and has no present available assets. He attributes his failure to the action of the petitioning creditors in refusing to proceed with the formation of Lu-Co, Ltd. In the absence of any offer, the case was left with the Official Receiver, to be wound up in the ordinary course.

Re Arthur Stafford Slater, 35 Perry Vale, Forest Hill, Kent, Chemist and Druggist, Managing Director of A. S. Richards & Co., Ltd.—The first meeting of the creditors was called for Thursday, December 28, at the offices of the Official Receiver, 132 York Road, Westminster Bridge, S.E., but no creditors attended, and the meeting was adjourned. According to the statement of affairs filed by the debtor, the gross liabilities amount to 686*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, of which 611*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* is expected to rank. After allowing 25*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* for preferential claims, the assets are estimated to realise 140*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, or a deficiency of 470*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* The debtor was apprenticed to a chemist and druggist, and towards the end of 1909 he took over a business which had formerly been carried on by Mr. E. E. Richards, chemist and druggist, at 35 Perry Vale, Forest Hill. The purchase-price of the business was 500*l.*, but at that time the debtor only had 15*l.* of his own money. He paid a deposit of 10*l.*, and agreed to pay the balance by half-yearly instalments of 25*l.* each. He had only paid 35*l.* on account of the purchase-price, and the balance of 465*l.* is still owing. When he took over the business he was not fully qualified. An inspector of the Pharmaceutical Society made a purchase at the shop, and subsequently the debtor was fined 5*l.* 5*s.* for illegally selling poison, and a similar sum for carrying on a chemist and druggist's business without being duly qualified. To get over the difficulty he formed a private limited company, A. S. Richards & Co., Ltd., to run the business, and engaged a fully qualified man to supervise the concern. The capital of the company was fixed at 100*l.*, in fully-paid shares of 1*l.* each. The debtor held ninety-nine of the shares, while the remaining share was held by the manager. The debtor states that no transfer of the business was ever made to the company. The debtor and his manager were appointed directors at the only meeting of the company ever held, which was in December 1909. The debtor passed the Minor examination last July, and dismissed his manager. Early in December a judgment was obtained against him by a wholesale house. The takings of the business only averaged some 5*l.* a week, and he came to the conclusion that he could not carry on the concern profitably. He therefore filed his own petition. He attributed his present position to "commencing business on borrowed money, insufficient profits to pay expenses, and ill-health."—The adjourned meeting was held on January 1. Mr. J. B. Knight, Official Receiver, who presided, said it was not possible to wind up the company, as no meeting could be called. A question arose as to whom the property belonged to, and there were difficulties in the way of selling the business as a going concern. By reason of his bankruptcy the debtor, under the articles of association, ceased to be a director of the company. The position thus created was that there was a company without directors, but which possessed creditors who had the right to levy execution. All the assets were said to be the assets of the company. It had been hoped that the creditors of the company and those of the debtor would have authorised the Official Receiver to realise the assets, and the question of their ownership could have been settled later. The premises occupied by the company were locked up, and the keys were in the possession of the Official Receiver. If a purchaser were found for the business it would be necessary to go to Court for direction on the matter.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Salicylic Acid in Wine.—At Norwich on December 30, Ernest Blyth was fined 2s. 6d. for selling black-currant wine containing 6 grains per pint of salicylic acid.

Junora Wine.—At the Bradford City Police Court on January 2, Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd., Burley Hill, Leeds, were summoned for selling a bottle of junora wine containing no lecithin-ovo. Mr. John J. Warrington, the food and drugs inspector under the Bradford Corporation, was the complainant. Mr. H. R. Watling, of the Town Clerk's department, applied for the case to be adjourned for a week, stating that both parties agreed. The Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. H. W. W. Wilberforce) accordingly granted the remand.

A Committal Order.—In the City of London Court on January 2, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., the H. & R. Process Engraving Co., Ltd., 4 Sussex Place, Leadenhall Street, E.C., applied to have Mr. Jacob Hertz, sued as Hertz & Co., 9 Mincing Lane, E.C., committed for the non-payment of 1l. 10s. 6d. due under a judgment. Plaintiffs' representative said that the defendant owed the money and could easily pay, he had every reason to believe. Defendant was in a very good way of business in Mincing Lane. Judge Lumley Smith said there was only 1l. 11s. 6d., including the court's fee, due. Had the plaintiffs applied for the money? Plaintiffs' representative said they had. The collector had applied. Defendant had said he would pay, but he did not do so. Judge Lumley Smith ordered the defendant (who did not attend) to be committed to prison for five days, suspended for a fortnight, in default of payment of the amount due.

Trade Advances.—In the City of London Court on January 1, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., and a jury, Messrs. H. Abrahams & Co., 3 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, made a claim against Mr. Alex. Sieff and his wife, lately trading as Sieff & Co., 14 Aldermanbury, E.C., to recover the sum of 61l. 1s. 5d. on two bills of exchange for eau de Cologne, perfume, bay rum, etc., supplied. Mr. W. Stewart appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Kimber for the defendants. Plaintiffs' case was that they had had large transactions with the defendants extending over several years. The defendants had been in the habit of bringing eau de Cologne, perfumes, scents, etc., to them and obtaining an advance upon them with a view to them being sold. In some cases the goods were purchased outright. Money was paid to the defendant on account of the goods, and if he would pay the bills of exchange which he gave, and which were dishonoured, he could have the goods which he had deposited against the loans. Defendant had since converted himself into a company. For the defence, Mr. Sieff said he owed the plaintiffs nothing. On the contrary, they owed him 250l. on the balance of accounts. He had raised the Money-lenders Act because the plaintiffs had charged him unreasonable interest for the loans which were made to him, and they were unregistered moneylenders. They had made him pay as much as 120 per cent. sometimes, and at other occasions he was paying them 1l. a week for the rest. They always called it "commission," as they did not want to appear to be moneylenders. He was to redeem the goods when he wanted, and the bills now sued on were not to be met. It was never intended that they should be. Plaintiffs had goods of his to the value of 250l. Mr. Stewart: He can have them all if he will meet his bills. Judge Lumley Smith said in the City of London bills of exchange ought to be as good as cash. Defendant's story that the bills were not to be met was not business. The jury found for the plaintiffs on claim and counterclaim for 61l. 10s. 5d., and costs were allowed.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BIGNELL, J. H., and OWEN, W., Imperial Buildings, New Bridge Street, London, pharmaceutical chemists, under the style of William Owen.

HOOLEY, A., and HUDSON, A. B., Cobham, Surrey, general medical practitioners, under the style of Hooley & Hudson.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

TRUDGETT, HERBERT LLOYD, Darnley Road, Hackney, surgical-instrument manufacturer.

ADJUDICATION.

WYAND, EDWARD HERBERT, Lexham Gardens, Kensington, lately Upper Phillimore Place, Kensington, dentist.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. R. WOOD, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business at 435 Oxford Road, Reading.

MESSRS. KERNICK & SON, LTD., wholesale druggists, Cardiff, have removed to 16 Moira Terrace.

MRS. A. SIMMONS has purchased the business of J. Kirkpatrick, chemist and druggist, Great Bardfield, Braintree.

MR. S. H. FAULKNER has recently purchased the business of E. Trenergy, 130 Elthorne Road, Hornsey Rise, London, N.

MESSRS. CHANCE & HUNT, LTD., chemical-manufacturers, have removed their London offices from 5 to 116 Fenchurch Street, E.C.

MR. F. ELLIS, late manager to the trustees of G. Gadd & Son, 1 Harleyford Road, Vauxhall, London, S.W., has now purchased the business.

MR. T. W. HAZELBY, chemist and druggist, Christchurch, is opening an up-to-date pharmacy at High Street, Ringwood, which is now his address.

MR. A. E. DUNCAN has commenced business on his own account as a general produce broker, at 9 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., under the style of A. E. Duncan & Son.

MESSRS. W. C. BACON & CO., 14 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., announce the retirement of their Mr. Charles Henry Tapply. The business will be carried on by the remaining partner, Mr. Charles Tapply, jun.

MESSRS. CLIFFORD CHRISTOPHERSON & CO., 21 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., announce that they have taken into partnership Mr. Henry Clifford Christopherson, younger son of their senior. The style of the firm will remain unchanged.

MESSRS. WILSON, SMITHETT & CO., 39 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., announce that they have admitted to partnership Mr. Richard Goodwin Bradshaw, who has been connected with their tea department for the past twenty years.

MR. ERNST BEHNCKE, drug and chemical merchant, Catharinenstrasse 29, Hamburg, informs us that he has retired from the firm of Geo. Sanders & Co., but will continue business on his own account under the firm name of Ernst Behncke.

MR. E. A. HOLLOWAY, chemist and druggist, 140 The Broadway, Southend-on-Sea, has sold the lease of his premises to Messrs. G. J. Keddie & Sons, drapers, and has purchased "Marguerites," No. 136, two doors below. Mr. Holloway will not remove until March.

MESSRS. EDWARD RICHARDS & CO., 39 Seething Lane, London, E.C., announce that they have been appointed by the Society of Chemical Industry in Basle and the Clayton Aniline Co., Ltd., of Manchester, as sole agents in London and the surrounding counties for their chemical products and aniline colours.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. JOSEPH BELL, chemist and druggist, 14 Newgate Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died on October 20, left estate valued at 1,043l. 9s. 10d. gross, with net personality 434l. 11s. 10d. Probate of his will has been granted to his sons, Mr. J. Renwick Bell, chemist, and Mr. W. J. Bell, chemist's assistant, and Mr. E. E. Charlton, solicitor.

MR. JAMES M. LAURIE, chemist and druggist, 255 Canon-gate, Edinburgh. An inventory lodged at Edinburgh shows estate amounting to 1,219l.

MR. FREDK. VICTOR RYMER, Ph.C., 23 Market Street, Wellingborough, who died on November 30, left estate valued at 1,716l. 13s. 1d. gross, with net personality 1,630l. Probate of his will has been granted to his brother, Mr. Wm. George Hamilton Rymer.

HAVE YOU filled in your *C. & D. Diary* postcards? Do it now and post us, so that you may not lose the opportunity of a share in the ten guineas we are giving.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

TRESSO, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.* Objects: To carry on the business of dealers in hair-restorers and washes, dental creams, etc. The first director is H. F. Jones (managing director).

SOOTHEEN, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in lotion, ointment, and medical preparations, etc. R.O., 452 Stretford Road, Old Trafford, Manchester.

ROBT. YOUNG & Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 12,000*l.* Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of Robt. Young & Co., chemical manufacturers, Glasgow. The first directors are D. C. Young and R. Young. R.O., 38 Elliot Street, Glasgow.

SCHABOK, LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 40,000*l.* Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals and medicines, etc. The first directors are H. Brechin, J.P., P. Dawson, A. H. Hunter, and J. Wilson. R.O., 94 Hope Street, Glasgow.

P. A. STEVENS & Co., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by W. R. Stevens at 72 Mansfield Road, Gospel Oak, London, as "Stevens & Co." W. R. Stevens, manufacturer of dental stoppings, is the first director.

S. L. SMITH, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over from S. L. Smith the business of a chemist and druggist now or lately carried on by John Frank at 9-10 Bridge Street, Whitby. The first directors are S. L. Smith, engineer, and Mrs. B. L. Smith, Lynton Cottage. Mr. Smith holds 999 shares.

NEW SUNBEAM BLEACH CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business indicated by the title, and that of wholesale, retail, manufacturing, and dispensing chemists, etc., and to adopt an agreement with A. Burnet and H. Temple, who are joint managing directors. R.O., 201 Old Kent Road, S.E.

MER-SYREN (1911), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500*l.*, in 495 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each and 100 deferred shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To take over the right to manufacture and deal in the medicinal preparations known as Mer-syren, and to adopt an agreement with A. Neagle. The first directors are J. C. Daniell, G. H. Slater, and A. Neagle.

BRITISH OXYPATHOR CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take from G. H. Treglown a transfer of an agreement between the Oxypathor Co. (incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, U.S.A.), to act as agents for the sale of Oxypathors and other articles manufactured by the said company, and to carry on the business of importers, exporters, traders, manufacturers, chemists, chemical manufacturers, engineers, producers of and dealers in oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, etc. The first subscribers are G. H. Treglown, 48 Loughton Grove, Sydenham, merchant; and J. A. Earl, 149 Ayres Road, Manchester, merchant. R.O., 65 Conduit Street, W.

DE TREY & Co., LTD.—Capital 200,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in artificial teeth and apparatus and appliances used in dentistry and dental surgery, etc., to acquire the business carried on by A. de Trey, F. Berthoud, and C. A. Barbezat at 13 and 14 Denman Street, Piccadilly, W., as "C. de Trey & Co." and to adopt an agreement with the said vendors and C. de Trey. The first directors are C. de Trey, A. de Trey, and C. A. Barbezat (managing directors). E. J. M. Clapham, Colesgrove, Cheshunt, Herts, and C. F. Clapham, Reform Club, Pall Mall, S.W. Qualification of subsequent managing directors, 10,000*l.*; of directors, 1,000*l.* Remuneration, 100*l.* each per annum (chairman, 200*l.*).

BIRTHS.

GRAHAM.—At 3 Portgower Place, Edinburgh, on December 30, the wife of W. L. Graham, chemist and druggist (J. C. Pottage & Co.), of a son.

TAYLOR.—At the Medical Hall, Enniscorthy, on December 25, the wife of James Taylor, Ph.C., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

LIVIE—SMALL.—At 43 Erskine Street, Dundee, on December 29, 1911, by the Rev. J. Robertson, B.D., Charles A. Livie, pharmacist, to Ina Sword, youngest daughter of Mrs. Small.

DEATHS.

CASANA Y LEONARDO.—We learn from Madrid of the death of Dr. D. Julian Casaña y Leonardo, Professor of the History of Pharmacy and the Comparative Study of Existing Pharmacopœias at the Madrid Faculty of Pharmacy. Before going to the Central University at Madrid, Dr. Casaña y Leonardo was for some twenty years Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Barcelona. His published works include a treatise on organic chemistry.



DR. CASANA Y LEONARDO.

DAY.—At the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, London, W., on December 27, 1911, after a protracted illness, Mr. William Day, founder of The Southern Drug Co., Ltd., aged sixty-three. We have been told that Mr. Day was brought up as a grocer, but whether that is so or not he was registered as a student of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1880, having in that year, when at Oswestry, passed the Preliminary examination. A few years later he was in Southampton, and acquired a small chemist's business there from a Mr. Thomas. Here he started the cut-price policy, and the business grew so rapidly that on April 5, 1887, it was registered as a company, under the title The Southern Drug Co., Ltd., with a capital of 40,000*l.* Ten years later the company had twenty-seven shops in the principal towns of the South Coast. Such was the success he met with that in 1897 he decided to commence business in London, in that year founding Day's Metropolitan Drug Co., Ltd., with a capital of 100,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. With him was associated as director Dr. E. T. Pritchard, a medical graduate of the Edinburgh University. The business progressed steadily until 1901, when the trade was startled by the announcement that both companies had been acquired by the founder of the Boots companies. At that time the Day companies' shops numbered fifty-seven, and three were in the course of fitting-up. This gave Sir Jesse Boot a footing in the South. The two Day companies were wound up, and Boots Cash Chemists (Southern), Ltd., was registered and floated, with a capital of 300,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. At that period Mr. Day, who had been in indifferent health (he was a martyr to asthma), retired altogether, and spent much of his time travelling, always wintering abroad. While in business Mr. Day fought persistently for his own hand, and when the Proprietary Articles Trade Association was formed he opposed it bitterly, issuing a circular to proprietors of proprietary articles against it, and even appealing to the public by advertisements in the newspapers to support him in his fight against the "ring." He was an able antagonist, and, looking back upon the controversy, it must be said that Mr. Day did signal service to the P.A.T.A. and Scott's Pills by his bitter denouncements. Since his retirement little has been heard of him, for he withdrew completely from association with the drug-trade, even withdrawing from the Pharmaceutical Society—his retention of the studentship for years after he had driven his carriage-and-four through the Pharmacy Act was a piece of sardonic humour which was not antidoted by frequent references to him as an awful example of company pharmacy. Socially we have heard that Mr. Day was a most agreeable man. He was a bachelor.

New Year Honours.

BEFORE the King left England for the Coronation Durbar in India he approved the list of New Year Honours which was placed before him by his Ministers. The list, which was circulated on New Year's Eve, contains some features of interest to our readers, in that although no chemist is actually honoured, the services to the country of several persons connected with the drug-trade are recognised. Perhaps the most notable cases are the knighthoods conferred on Mr. Joseph Beecham and Mr. Herbert J. F. Parsons. The former is the well-known proprietor of Beecham's pills, of St. Helens, a business which was founded by his father, Mr. Thomas Beecham, in the 'forties. The founder was a chemist and druggist who started business in Wigan, and when his pills began to



SIR JOSEPH BEECHAM.

gain popularity removed to St. Helens, where, in 1885, palatial business premises costing over 30,000*l.* were erected to accommodate all the departments of the pill business. Sir Joseph Beecham is the eldest son of the founder, and has been associated with the business all his life, and at the head of it since 1895, when his father retired. Sir Joseph is this year filling his third term of office as Mayor of St. Helens, having been for about twenty-five years a member of the Corporation. He has made large benefactions to local charitable institutions. Recently Sir Joseph Beecham joined the directorate of A. & F. Pears, Ltd., being in this way intimately associated with Mr. T. F. Barratt, and, like him, having pronounced artistic tastes, his house at Hampstead containing one of the finest private collections of pictures in this country. He is an able musician, and recently purchased the Aldwych Theatre, London, where, it is stated, a series of operas are to be produced. One of his brothers is a medical man, and his son, Mr. Thomas Beecham, is prominent in the musical world.

Sir Herbert Parsons is a Londoner by birth and education, and although his first inclination was towards surgery, he entered the family business and is now a director of Ashton & Parsons, Ltd., proprietors of "Phosferine," La Belle Sauvage Yard, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. He is also a director of Dollond & Co., Ltd., which is probably the oldest optical business in the country. Sir Herbert has been a keen supporter of the Territorial Army movement from its inception, and closely identified with the 3rd Battalion City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), of which he is the hon. colonel. The business

of Ashton & Parsons, homœopathic-medicine manufacturers, was established in 1868, and Mr. Ashton having died shortly afterwards, Mr. G. H. Parsons, father of Mr. Herbert Parsons, became the sole proprietor. The system of establishing agencies throughout the country and abroad contributed mainly to the success of the enterprise. Mr. G. H. Parsons died in 1892, and the business was then carried on by his eldest son, Mr. George H. L. Parsons, who had been with him for some years, in conjunction with Mr. Herbert Parsons, who had joined the firm about five years before. A limited company was formed in 1898, and two younger brothers, Mr. Norman Parsons and Mr. Harold Parsons, have since been associated on the board of directors. The new knight is a type of the keen business man, tall and clean shaven, and a firm believer in the Territorial Army scheme and its good effects physically on the young men of the country. He holds that success in business depends chiefly upon hard work and courage to seize new opportunities as they arise, a view which should assist in disillusioning those who hold that success is always a matter of good luck.

Mr. T. R. Ferens, M.P., who is to be sworn of the Privy Council, is director of Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., manufacturers of ultramarine and starch, Hull, and has represented East Hull in the House of Commons since 1906.

Science receives recognition in several directions. Mr. H. A. Miers, Principal of the University of London since 1903, receives a knighthood. He is a D.Sc., F.R.S., and was Vice-President of the Chemical Society from 1901 to 1904. His special study is mineralogy and crystallography, and he was formerly a Waynflete Professor in Mineralogy at Oxford. His text-book on the subject, which he published in 1902, is a standard work.

Another knight is Mr. W. F. Barrett, F.R.S., who was for many years Professor of Physics at the Royal College of Science, Dublin. He has gone rather deeply into the manifestations of psychics, a subject of which few scientists have any practical knowledge. He was a founder and formerly President of the Society for Psychical Research. In his early days he was one of Tyndall's assistants.

Mr. A. B. Kempe, F.R.S., who is to be knighted, is a distinguished mathematician, and Treasurer of the Royal Society, but his occupation as a barrister is in connection with ecclesiastical matters.

Mr. Ralph C. Foster, who gave over 30,000*l.* for the London University College chemical laboratories, is receiving a baronetcy.

Lieutenant-Colonel David Prain, F.R.S., Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is nominated C.M.G.

The medical profession is well represented in the Honours List. Dr. J. Hawtrey Benson, who is knighted, is President of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland, medical adviser in Ireland to the Colonial Office, and consulting physician to the Royal City of Dublin and the Monkstown Hospitals. He is the son of a medical man who was at one time President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland.

Dr. R. J. Collie, upon whom a knighthood is conferred, received his medical education at Aberdeen University, and specialised in life-insurance matters. He is medical examiner to the London County Council and chief medical officer to the Metropolitan Water Board.

Dr. J. Mackenzie Davidson, another knight, also an Aberdeen man, is best known from his work in radiography, in which science he was a pioneer in its applications to ophthalmology. He is consulting surgeon to the Röntgen-ray department of Charing Cross Hospital, and consulting surgeon in charge of the x-ray department of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital.

Dr. G. H. Savage, who receives a knighthood, is a well-known expert on mental diseases. He formerly lectured on this subject at Guy's Hospital, of which institution he is consulting physician. His "Manual on Insanity" is authoritative. Of particular interest is the fact that the new knight is a son of the late Mr. W. D. Savage, of Brighton, one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society, and for many years a member of the Council. Dr. Savage's brother, Mr. W. W. Savage, is the

well-known pharmaceutical chemist, who carries on the family business at Brighton, and as local Secretary of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1905 so successfully engineered the Brighton meeting.

Dr. Bertram C. A. Windle, F.R.S., another medical knight, is President of University College, Cork. He is one of the foremost anatomists in the United Kingdom, and was formerly in Birmingham.

Dr. Arthur Newsholme, medical officer of the Local Government Board, receives the C.B.

Business interests are recognised in the baronetcy conferred on Mr. L. E. Ralli, head of Ralli Brothers, who, as East India merchants, carry through large dealings in shellac. Mr. Robert Walton, Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, also receives a knighthood.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. GEORGE COULTER, chemist and druggist, Wetherby, Yorkshire, has retired from business to reside at 40 The Avenue, Starbeck, Harrogate.

MR. J. C. UMNEY, F.C.S., has been elected Chairman of the Toilet Soap Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, this being in addition to the Chairmanship of the Chemical Trade Section.

MR. FRANK ROBERT SQUIRE, of The English Pharmacy, San Remo, Italy, is one of the best-known men of Anglo-



MR. F. R. SQUIRE.

Continental pharmacy, and this is a portrait of him taken in the garden of his private house in San Remo. Mr. Squire is a Lincolnshire man, having been born at Hatton Hall. He was apprenticed to Mr. W. Asling, chemist, Spalding, and in September 1860 was registered as an apprentice of the Pharmaceutical Society, with which he has been uninterruptedly connected since. When his apprenticeship was over Mr. Squire entered the wholesale and had a good experience in it before he took the managership of a retail pharmacy in the country. He passed the Minor examination in July 1869. He went to Rome as an assistant, afterwards to Geneva, and in 1870 started business on his own account at San Remo. Until last year Mr. Squire was not allowed to sell medicines to Italians nor to keep his pharmacy open during the summer months, but now the authorities insist on his keeping open all the year round and have given him permission to exercise his profession with everybody, and he was able at the beginning of this season to get his first Italian assistant. Mr. Squire's pharmacy has been noted among English assistants for many years as a suitable place for Continental experience. From 1870 until 1908 the pharmacy was in the principal street in the centre of the town, but then Mr. Squire removed it outside the town to the fashionable promenade where there is nothing but palm trees and the blue waters of the Mediterranean in front, and the move has been a happy one. During his career Mr. Squire has received three Royal Warrants and has been patronised by members of nearly every Royal Family in Europe, as well as by the late King of Siam.

TRADE NOTES.

"DR. HOMMEL'S HÆMATOGEN."—The originators of this preparation insert an advertisement in this issue warning our readers of danger from imitations of their preparation.

THE ANGLO-INDIAN DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., Bombay, in our advertising pages call the attention of readers at home and abroad to their special preparations: kamatooids, vi-quinine, formoids, febrosan.

MESSRS. NEWBALL & MASON, Nottingham, inform us that through a typing error the size of the boiler referred to in the issue of the *C. & D.*, December 23, was given incorrectly. It should be 30 ft. long by 8 ft. in diameter.

"DIARY" TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES.—Will readers please add the following to the *Diary* list on page 192: FRANK A. ROGERS...*Pharyngeal London*...Gerrard...4142 and 4246. W. R. F. AVERY & Co...*Seals London*...Kensington 4629.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS.—In addition to the New Year greetings from advertisers which were noted in last week's issue are the announcements in this number of G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., 73 Farringdon Street, London, E.C., and Zog, Ltd., 6A Middlesex Street, London, E.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD., Croydon, have been appointed sole agents for the United Kingdom and British Colonies for Reid & Carrick's pharmaceutical products, which include peptenzyme, protocuclein, trophinine, nephritin, pancrobin, and zymocide.

PHARMACEUTICAL BORAX.—Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd., Stratford and Ilford, London, E., intimate through our advertisement pages this week that their borax contains less than one part of arsenic in a million, which is well within the limit of $\frac{1}{1000}$ th of a grain per lb. laid down by the Food Department of the English Local Government Board in respect to citric and tartaric acids.

AMMONIA-BOTTLES.—Messrs. Beatson, Clark & Co., Ltd., medical-glass manufacturers, Rotherham, figure in their advertisement in this issue the "Ammonia Oval," which has been especially designed to comply with the regulations made by the Privy Council regarding the sale of solution of ammonia. The bottles are made in pale-green glass, which enables the contents to be seen easily. The bottle is equally suitable for mineral acids.

TOOTH'S EXTRACT OF MEAT is an old favourite to which the manufacturers, Tooth's Extract of Meat Co., 12 Duke Street, London, S.E., have added "Virox" fluid beef and "Virox" soup tablets. These provide most palatable and highly nutritious *consommé*. The tablets retail at 1d. each, each sufficing to make a breakfastcupful of *consommé*. It is unnecessary for us to enlarge upon the subject, as the company offer to send samples and prices to any of our readers on application, so that they may judge for themselves of the quality of the products, which is consistent with the demands of pharmacy.

LIQUOR CARBONIS DETERGENS.—In our issue of December 2, when reprinting a second instalment of proposed formulæ for the "National Formulary," we mentioned Liquor Picis Carbonis, it being proposed to use the British Pharmacopœia formula with the addition of the synonym "Liquor Carbonis Detergens." Mr. John C. Umney, managing director of Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., the originators and proprietors of the liquor, wrote to Professor C. Lewis Diehl, Editor of the "Formulary," and has received from him a letter, in the course of which he says:

"This formula has not yet been published in the 'National Formulary,' so no other correction will be necessary than to delete the synonym 'Liquor Carbonis Detergens' originated and registered by your firm in 1863, which I can confidently promise shall be done."

We may add that this is not the only instance that we have seen recently of unwarranted use of the title Liquor Carbonis Detergens. It is somewhat loosely used, for example, in some hospital Pharmacopœias, and it should be noted that the title Liquor Carbonis Detergens cannot under any circumstances be applied to Liquor Picis Carbonis, B.P., or any other preparation than Wright's.

National Insurance Act.

Administration of Medical Benefit.

THE Act has been published this week and may be obtained through any bookseller, the published price being 1s. 3d. We append the full text of Section 15, which refers to the administration of medical benefit:

(1) Every Insurance Committee shall, for the purpose of administering medical benefit, make arrangements with duly qualified medical practitioners in accordance with regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners.

(2) The regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners shall provide for the arrangements made being subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners and being such as to secure that insured persons shall, save as hereinafter provided, receive adequate medical attendance and treatment from the medical practitioners with whom arrangements are so made, and shall require the adoption by every Insurance Committee of such system as will secure—

- (a) the preparation and publication of lists of medical practitioners who have agreed to attend and treat insured persons whose medical benefit is administered by the committee;
- (b) a right on the part of any duly qualified medical practitioner who is desirous of being included in any such list as aforesaid of being so included, but, where the Insurance Commissioners, after such inquiry as may be prescribed, are satisfied that his continuance in the list would be prejudicial to the efficiency of the medical service of the insured, they may remove his name from the list;
- (c) a right on the part of any insured person of selecting, at such periods as may be prescribed, from the appropriate list the practitioner by whom he wishes to be attended and treated, and, subject to the consent of the practitioner so selected, of being attended and treated by him;
- (d) the distribution amongst, and, so far as practicable, under arrangements made by, the several practitioners whose names are on the lists, of the insured persons who after due notice have failed to make any selection, or who have been refused by the practitioner whom they have selected;
- (e) the provision of medical attendance and treatment, on the same terms as to remuneration as those arranged with respect to insured persons, to members of any friendly society which, or a separate section of which, becomes an approved society who were such members at the date of the passing of this Act, and who are not entitled to medical benefit under this Part of this Act by reason either that they are of the age of sixty-five or upwards at the date of the commencement of this Act, or that being subject to permanent disablement at that date they are not qualified to become insured persons:

Provided that, if the Insurance Commissioners are satisfied after inquiry that the practitioners included in any list are not such as to secure an adequate medical service in any area, they may dispense with the necessity of the adoption of such system as aforesaid as respects that area, and authorise the Committee to make such other arrangements as the Commissioners may approve; or the Commissioners may themselves make such arrangements as they think fit, or may suspend the right to medical benefit in respect of any insured persons in the area for such period as they think fit, and pay to each such person a sum equal to the estimated cost of his medical benefit during that period, and, where the Commissioners take any such action themselves, they shall retain and apply for the purpose such part of the sums payable to the Insurance Committee in respect of medical benefit as may be required.

(3) The regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners shall authorise the Insurance Committee by which medical benefit is administered to require any persons whose income exceeds a limit to be fixed by the Committee, and to allow any other persons, in lieu of receiving medical benefit under such arrangements as aforesaid, to make their own arrangements for receiving medical attendance and treatment (including medicines and appliances), and in such case the Committee shall, subject to the regulations, contribute from the funds out of which medical benefit is payable towards the cost of medical attendance and treatment (including medicines and appliances) for such persons sums not exceeding in the aggregate the amounts which the Committee would otherwise have expended in providing medical benefit for them.

(4) The regulations shall provide that, in the case of persons who are entitled to receive medical attendance and

treatment under any system or through any institution existing at the time of the passing of this Act and approved by the Insurance Committee and the Insurance Commissioners, such medical attendance and treatment may be treated as, or as part of, their medical benefit under this Part of this Act, and may provide for the Committee contributing towards the expenses thereof the whole or any part of the sums which would be contributed in the case of persons who have made their own arrangements as aforesaid, so, however, that such regulations shall secure that no person be deprived of his right, if he so elects, of selecting the duly qualified medical practitioner by whom he wishes to be attended and treated, in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this section.

(5) Every such Committee shall also make provision for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines and prescribed appliances to insured persons in accordance with regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners, which shall provide for the arrangements made being subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners and being such as to enable insured persons to obtain from any persons, firms, or bodies corporate with whom arrangements have been made such drugs, medicines, and appliances if ordered by the medical practitioner by whom they are attended, and shall require the adoption by every Insurance Committee of such a system as will secure—

- (a) The preparation and publication of lists of persons, firms, and bodies corporate who have agreed to supply drugs, medicines, and appliances to insured persons whose medical benefit is administered by the Committee, according to such scale of prices as may be fixed by the Committee;
- (b) A right on the part of any person, firm, or body corporate desirous of being included in any such list as aforesaid of being so included, for the purpose of supplying such drugs, medicines, and appliances as such person, firm, or body corporate is entitled by law and authorised by the Committee to supply, except in cases where the Insurance Commissioners after inquiry are satisfied that the inclusion or continuance of the person, firm, or body corporate in such list would be prejudicial to the efficiency of the service:

Provided that—

- (i) If the Insurance Commissioners are satisfied that the scale of prices fixed by the Committee is reasonable, but that the persons, firms, or bodies corporate included in any list are not such as to secure an adequate and convenient supply of drugs, medicines, and appliances in any area, they may dispense with the necessity of the adoption of such system as aforesaid as respects that area and authorise the Committee to make such other arrangements as the Commissioners may approve;
- (ii) Except as may be provided by regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners, no arrangement shall be made by the Insurance Committee with a medical practitioner under which he is bound or agrees to supply drugs or medicine to any insured persons;
- (iii) Subject to the regulations made by the last foregoing proviso the regulations shall prohibit arrangements for the dispensing of medicines being made with persons other than persons, firms, or bodies corporate entitled to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as amended by the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, who under 31 & 32 VICT. take that all medicines supplied by c. 121. them to insured persons shall be dispensed either by or under the direct c. 55. supervision of a registered pharmacist or by a person who, for three years immediately prior to the passing of this Act, has acted as a dispenser to a duly qualified medical practitioner or a public institution;
- (iv) Nothing in this Act shall interfere with the rights and privileges conferred by the Apothecaries Act, 55 GEO. 3. 1815, upon any person qualified under c. 194. that Act to act as an assistant to any apothecary in compounding and dispensing medicines.

(6) There shall in each year be paid to the Insurance Committee for each county or county borough out of moneys credited to a society which has members resident in the county or county borough such sum in respect of the medical benefit of such members and the cost of administration thereof as may be agreed between the society and committee or, in default of agreement, may be determined by the Insurance Commissioners.

(7) If in any year the amount payable to an Insurance Committee in respect of all persons for the administration of whose medical benefit it is responsible is insufficient to meet the estimated expenditure thereon, the Committee may,

through the Insurance Commissioners, transmit to the Treasury and to the council of the county or county borough an account showing the amount so payable and the estimated expenditure, and the Treasury and the county council or the council of the county borough may, if they think fit and if satisfied that the amounts so payable and the proposed expenditure are reasonable and proper in the circumstances, sanction the expenditure.

(8) The Treasury and the council of the county or county borough sanctioning any such expenditure as aforesaid shall thereupon each be liable to make good, in the case of the Treasury out of moneys provided by Parliament, and, in the case of the council of a county or county borough, out of the county fund or borough fund or borough rate, as the case may be, one-half of any sums so sanctioned by them and expended by the Insurance Committee on medical benefit in the course of the year in excess of the amounts so payable to the Insurance Committee as aforesaid.

We will forward a reprint of this matter to any subscriber who sends us a stamped and addressed envelope (marked "Insurance") for the purpose. It will be suitable for inserting at p. 465 of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*.

PATENT SPECIFICATIONS.

Printed copies of the following specifications are on sale (8d. each) at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C., a fortnight after the notice of acceptance has appeared in the "Official Journal" (Patents) of the given dates. Persons desirous of opposing the grant of a patent must do so in the prescribed form within two months from the date of the "Journal" in which the notice appeared.

Specifications Accepted.

December 6, 1911.

FLEXIBLE COMPOSITION OR GLUE. 19853/10. Kelly.
MANUFACTURE OF DRY YEAST. 27845/10. Krius.
PRESERVING STONE. 28284/10. Hemingway.
MANUFACTURES FOR USE IN FILTERS. 1336/11. Candy.
PRODUCTION OF STERILISING AGENTS IN LIQUID-STERILISING PLANTS. 4127/11. Otto.
PREPARATION OR PUTTING UP OF THE INGREDIENTS NECESSARY FOR MAKING TINCTURE OR AN AQUEOUS SOLUTION OF IODINE. 6562/11. Overton.
PREPARATION OF HYDROGEN BY AUTO-COMBUSTION. 9623/11. Jaubert.
NEW COMPOUNDS FROM BLOOD. 11736/11. Scheitlin.
ENEMA AND DOUCHING CHAIR-COMMODE. 11808/11. Carnegie & Manton.
TOOTH-BRUSH HOLDERS. 11213/11. McGrath.
HARDENING DENTAL CEMENTS BY WARMING. 16151/11. Geb. Dr. Asch.
HARDENING AND WATERPROOFING ANIMAL SKINS. 16810/11. Hartmann.
STABLE PREPARATION FROM HYDROGEN PEROXIDE AND UREA. 20242/11. Chemische Werke vorm. Dr. Heinrich Byk.

December 13, 1911.

PRODUCING NITROGEN COMPOUNDS. 22745/10. Heys. (Nitrogen Co.)
APPARATUS FOR VOLATILISING DISINFECTANTS, SCENTS, AND THE LIKE. 2167/10. Kingzett and "Sanitas" Co.
EMULSION PRODUCTS OF ASPHALT, ETC. 28178/10. Wallbaum.
ALKALI AND ALKALINE-EARTH SULPHIDES. 28261/10. Johnson. (Chemische Fabrik Griesheim Elektron.)
APPARATUS FOR HANDLING INVALIDS, ETC. 28375/10 and 23941/10. Skeffington.
AMBER-SUBSTITUTE. 28491/10. Kunisch & Brunn.
NIPPLE-SHIELDS. 15892/11. Rath & Brockmann.
BOTTLE-CAPS. 16448/11. Hammer & American Cap Co.
REDUCING INFLAMMABILITY OF RAISED COTTON GOODS. 17864/11. John Bright & Bros., Ltd., & Oldroyd.
MANUFACTURE OF GLYCERO-PHOSPHORIC ACID. 19319/10. Zimmermann. (Chemische Fabrik auf Actien, vorm. E. Schering.)
EMULSION PRODUCTS OF ASPHALT, ETC. 23468/10. Wallbaum.
MANUFACTURE OF HYDROGEN. 28534/10. Barton.
PREPARATION OF MILK OF RESIN AS SIZE. 29553/10. Barat.
RECOVERY OF CORROSIVE ACIDS FROM THEIR ABSORBENTS. 29906/10. Hall & Scott.
PIPES FOR TOBACCO AND MEDICATED VAPOUR. 3405/11. Neal.
FLAVOURING PREPARATION. 9214/11. Bray, Curtis & Waugh.
METHOD OF PREVENTING EXPLOSIONS OF BENZINE AND THE LIKE. 11504/11. Boehm.
TOOTH-BRUSHES. 13024/11. Witman.

December 20, 1911.

MAKING A GLUCOSE-LIKE PRODUCT FROM CELLULOSIC AND LIGNEOUS MATERIALS. 23573/10. Cohoe.
MANUFACTURE OF ARTICLES OF QUARTZ OR SILICA. 25887/11. Burckhardt.
ALARM APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING EXPLOSIONS AND POISONING BY GASES. 28697/10. Von Pausinger.
RENDERING CELLULOSE ACETATE NON-FLAMMABLE. 28842/10. Seaton-Snowdon & Young.
DESTRUCTION OF HARMFUL NOCTURNAL INSECTS. 29054/10. Gréger.
PADS FOR RUPTURE-TRUSSES. 30257/10. Auty & Atkinson.
MASSAGE INSTRUMENT FOR EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF MEDICAMENTS. 30265/10. Bichara de Paris (England), Ltd., & MacLaren.
APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING THE QUANTITY OF CARBON DIOXIDE IN OTHER GASES. 199/11. Woodroffe.
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY ON PAPER. 1937/11. Butler.
APPARATUS FOR PATIENTS WITH FRACTURE OF THE THIGH, ETC. 3929/11. Rothenberg.
TOOTH-BRUSH. 5374/11. Jones.
BED-SLIPPERS AND PANS. 6747/11. Boonzaier.
MANUFACTURE OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE. 9609/11. Vis.
MANUFACTURING PALM OIL. 14728/11. Cookson. (Saunders.)
DENATURING ALCOHOL. 16153/11. Kluge.
ARCH-SUPPORTS FOR FEET. 17410/11. Klein.
COMPOSITION FOR TREATING LEATHER, FABRICS, AND THE LIKE. 17461/10. O'Keefe.
CEMENT FOR PNEUMATIC TYRES. 18075/10. Jearsain.
MANUFACTURE OF BINDING AGENTS. 21667/10. Lender.
NIPPLES FOR FEEDING-BOTTLES. 22788/10. Bowly.

December 29, 1911.

TREATMENT OF IRON OR STEEL FOR THE PREVENTION OF OXIDATION. 29504/10. Heathcote & Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd.
CHEMICAL FIRE-EXTINGUISHER. 29518/10. Hepton.
STERILISING JAMS, ETC. 331/11. Harrison.
STOPPERS FOR SYPHON-BOTTLES. 510/11. Trigwell.
MANUFACTURE OF QUARTZ-WARE. 1362/11. Burckhardt.
OBTAINING PEROXIDES, ETC., FROM ALKALINE CARBONATES. 3992/11. Bollo & Cadenaceio.
NEW SUBSTANCE BY CONDENSATION OF FORMALDEHYDE WITH BODIES OF THE TERPENE SERIES. 4649/11. Naef & Thévenaz.
APPARATUS FOR TREATING LIQUIDS WITH ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS. 8157 and 8158/11. Henri, Helbronner & Von Recklinghausen.
LOTIONS FOR TREATING THE SCALP. 10495/11. Stebbins.
SURGICAL TRUSSES. 11559/11. Catala-Valls.
PRODUCING NITROGEN COMPOUNDS. 12555/11. Schick & Akt.-Ges. für Stickstoffdünger.
FERTILISERS FROM NATURAL PHOSPHATES. 13890/11. Newberry & Barrett.
ABSORBENT COMPOUND FABRICS. 16266/11. Assel.
APPLYING GELATIN TO PAPER. 17851/11. Ludwig.
FURNACES FOR ELECTROLYTIC PRODUCTION OF SODIUM. 18304/11. Scheitlin.
NIPPLES FOR NURSING-BOTTLES. 20711/11. Shepherd.
PRODUCING PINACONE. 22795/11. Farbenfabriken vorm. F. Bayer & Co.
NITROGEN COMPOUNDS OF SILICON AND ALUMINIUM. 25141/11. Serpek.
TREATMENT OF LAC. 25721/11. Johannes.

Specifications Open for Inspection.

MANUFACTURE OF CATHETERS, ETC. 23589/11. Plisson.
MANUFACTURE OF CREAM OF TARTAR. 25573/11. Cornat.
ARTIFICIAL INDIARUBBER. 10420/11. Desouches, Riase & Duron.
COMBINATION EAR-TRUMPET AND HAIR-PAD. 15481/11. Mosenger.
PURIFYING SODA-LYE RENDERED IMPURE BY THE MERCERISATION PROCESS. 17626/11. Petzold.
LUMINESCENT TUBES FOR RARE GASES. 24164/11. Son. L'Air Liquide.
MANUFACTURE OF AMMONIA. 24657/11. Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.
COFFEE-TABLETS. 26996/11. Carreras.
RETAINING COLOUR OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT. 27017/11. Blassneck.
PRODUCING DIGESTIVE FERMENT. 25879/11. Yenjo.
APPLYING CAPSULES TO BOTTLES. 27289/11. Weisenthanner.
STERILISING FLUIDS BY MEANS OF RAYS OF SHORT-WAVE LENGTH. 27366/11. Renoncé.
ACETIC ANHYDRIDE FROM ACETATES. 611/11. Th. Goldschmidt.
COOLING DEVICES FOR RÖNTGEN TUBES. 23325/11. C. H. F. Müller.
DISINFECTANT MANUFACTURE. 26694/11. Rulke.
DE-GLYCERINISING LIME-SOAPS. 27297/11. Krebitz & Vogl.
VIBRATION-MASSAGE APPARATUS. 23029/11. Dreuw.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Insipin.—A new tasteless quinine derivative has been prepared, which has been termed insipin, and contains 72.2 per cent. of quinine. It is the sulphate of the diglycollic ester of quinine, of the formula $O(CH_2)_2(CO(C_6H_5N_2O_2))_2.H_2SO_4.3H_2O$. It is a crystalline powder, insoluble in cold water, but easily dissolved by the aid of a little free sulphuric acid.

A New Borneol Remedy.—A new ester of borneol has been prepared, containing a large amount of bromine, and which is strongly recommended as a sedative in cases where bromine is indicated. It is prepared by the bromination of bornyl cinnamate, the resulting compound being the dibrom-dihydrocinnamic ester of borneol of the formula $C_{15}H_{17}Br_2$ — $(CHBr.CO_2.C_{10}H_7)$. It is a white, odourless powder, almost tasteless, and insoluble in water, and melting at 75°. It contains 35 per cent. of bromine, and is easily decomposed in the intestines, liberating free borneol.

A New Remedy.—The bismuth salt of iodo-resorcin-sulphonic acid has been prepared and placed on the market as a powerful antiseptic powder. To prepare it, 265 grams of potassium iodo-resorcin sulphate is dissolved in 21 parts of water, and mixed with 481 grams of bismuth nitrate dissolved in a mixture of glycerin and water. The liquid is rendered neutral by the addition of sodium bicarbonate, and the resulting precipitate is washed at a low temperature with water and dried *in vacuo*. It is a brown, amorphous powder of the formula $(C_6H_4(OH)_2.ISO_3)_3BI.3Bi(OH)_3$.

A New Essential Oil.—Francesconi and Scavafia ("Gazz. Chim. Ital.," 1911, 185) have obtained from the herb *Santolina chamaecyparissus*, a plant found in dry places in the Mediterranean provinces of Italy and used medicinally to some extent, up to 1.15 per cent. of a yellow, aromatic essential oil, having the following characters: Sp. gr. at 15° = 0.8704; optical rotation, -11.66°; saponification-value, 11.78; acetyl-ester value, 11.74. On fractionation two main fractions were obtained: (1) 94°-97°, and (2) 99°-101° (pressure not stated). It contains a large quantity of a terpene not yet identified, a phenolic ester, and the esters of an alicyclic alcohol.

New Dammar-resins.—Gottlieb ("Archiv der Pharmazie," 1911, 701, 705) has examined specimens of dammar-resins obtained from mid-Borneo. One of these was a recent resin, the other a recently fossilised resin. The characters of the two were as follows:

New Resin.	Fossil Resin.
Resin acid, $C_{24}H_{44}O_2$ = about 35%	Resin acid, $C_{16}H_{26}O_2$ = about 18%
Resin acid, $C_{13}H_{26}O_2$ = " 30%	Resin acid, $C_{14}H_{22}O_2$ = " 25%
Essential oil = " 15%	Resin acid, $C_{12}H_{18}O_2$ = " 18%
Resene, $C_{22}H_{26}O$ = " 16%	Resene = " 6%
Acid-value = 140-142	Essential oil = " 8%
Saponification-value = 163.5-165.2	Acid-value = 198.8
	Saponification-value = 201.6

A New Sedative.—A patent has been taken out by the Farberfabriken vorm. Fr. Bayer & Co. for the preparation of a series of new derivatives of urea, which are claimed to be very powerful sedatives. For example, 25 parts of the hydrochloride of iso-urea-methyl-ether is dissolved in 230 parts of water, and 50 parts of bromdiethylacetyl bromide is added. The mixture is well shaken, and normal alkali solution is added until the reaction is alkaline. Crystals soon separate out, which have the composition of a brom-diethyl-acetyl-iso-urea-methyl ether. This body crystallises in a pure condition from petroleum ether, and this melts at 72°. It has a powerful sedative action.

Lecithin.—The accurate determination of this body is now a matter of considerable importance. Virchow ("Chem. Zeit.," 1911, 913) recommends the following: One gram of the substance is boiled three times in succession with 10 c.c. of alcohol (99 to 100 per cent.), and the insoluble matter washed with the same solvent. The total amount of liquid should not exceed 60 c.c. The alcohol is evaporated, and the residue weighed. It is then dissolved in 10 c.c. of anhydrous ether, and filtered through an asbestos filter. The ether is evaporated from the filtrate and washings, and the dry residue oxidised with 4 c.c. of fuming nitric acid. The liquid is poured into a platinum capsule and the vessel washed out with more nitric acid. The acid is evaporated, a little sodium carbonate added, and a little potassium nitrate to assist fusion. The whole of the phosphorus is present as phosphorus pentoxide in the melt, and this is determined as magnesium pyrophosphate in the usual manner.

Meliatin, a new Glucoside.—Bridel has extracted a new glucoside from the plant *Menyanthes trifoliata*, which he terms meliatin. The bruised plant is extracted with

alcohol, the alcohol evaporated, and the filtered aqueous liquid concentrated under reduced pressure. On adding a large volume of strong alcohol a voluminous precipitate is formed. The clear liquid is decanted, and the alcohol evaporated. The syrupy residue is then extracted with ether, and then evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. This residue is extracted with alcohol, the alcohol evaporated, the residue extracted with acetone, the acetone recovered, the residue being dissolved in water, filtered, evaporated to dryness and recrystallised from absolute alcohol. From 23 kilos. of the plant 50 grams of glucoside was obtained. Meliatin forms white, odourless crystals, with a bitter taste, melting at 222° (corrected). It is levorotatory, $[\alpha_D] = -82^\circ$. It has the formula $C_{12}H_{22}O_{10}$, and on hydrolysis yields glucose and a compound of the formula $C_8H_{12}O_8$.



Postal Address:
C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."
Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 19/68. Payne's reagent.
- 27/15. "Oxopharmacan."
- 25/7. "Byronal"; supply.
- 25/5. "Sekuritas"; suppliers.
- 28/23. "Mater" feeding-bottle.
- 24/38. "Purisine" disinfecting fluid.
- 27/35. "Vyto-lac" (a food): makers.
- 28/19. "Crown" brand copper sulphate.
- 21/11. Alden's black-currant cough-syrup.
- 25/2. Hirsch's perfumes: makers or agents.
- 26/18. "Seven Barks" (liquid preparation).
- 28/20. "Poudre de Riz l'Enchanteresse": makers.
- 22/32. "Kolene Compound" (for economising coal).
- 23/46. Bratey's (or Bratby's) "Eclipse" sputum-mug.
- 28/190. "Bunch of Grapes" brand sulphate of copper.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- "Always Ready" food-warmers, 19/53
- "Amros" ointment, 21/22
- Autograph albums, 173/151
- "Autotherm" flask, 19/58
- "Avillia" toilet articles, 25/6
- Bunter's Nervine, 24/270
- Carlsbad-Sprudel salt (powder), 19/65
- "Carlton" stropping-machine, 20/42
- Chatelaine-bags, 73/152
- "Coal-Save," 22/32
- Cockle's antibilious pills, 20/38
- Colloidal sulphur, 23/8
- Comman's tooth-paste, 23/33
- Cottonseed oil, 74/12
- Crysolis, 21/21
- Dental instruments and accessories (Trinidad inquiry), 69/17
- Dextrine, 22/31
- "Eureka" tablet-machine, 23/61
- Felspar, 23/59
- Fire-extinguishers (makers), 22/63
- Furunculine tablets (South African inquiry), 21/56
- "Forest Flowers," 23/63
- Hair-nets (for ladies), 73/154
- "Holborn" knife-machine, 78/9
- Joha (Salvarsan emulsion), 25/68
- "Junior" cloth-balls, 24/49
- Lactona, 23/45
- Leichner's grease paints (agents), 22/29
- Oxylithe, 26/2
- Packed goods (special), 74/120
- Picture-postcards, 73/150
- Poslam (S. African inquiry), 24/50
- Potash-permanganate bulbs (for cisterns), 23/320
- "Sanichief" medicated handkerchiefs, 20/73
- Serravallo tonic-wine, 24/27
- Side-combs (ladies'), 73/153
- Sodium peroxide, 17/66
- Spangler's pills and ointment, 25/6
- Stationary supplies, 73/15
- "Toinoco" medicated handkerchief, 20/730
- Vegetable leaflets, 22/6
- Venice turpentine, importers, 25/4

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The Same to You!

It is a pleasure to reciprocate the good wishes of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for the New Year, and this I do with the utmost heartiness. I note your remark that British pharmacy has prospered during 1911, and this I believe to be absolutely true. In this new year many trials may be in store for British pharmacy, but it will perhaps be some consolation to us to know that pharmacists in other lands are not much more fortunate. The German Apotheker is at war with the druggist, as we may very soon be with the unqualified owners of stores, for it certainly looks as if the provision of medical benefit in this country is to be distributed among others than the qualified pharmacists. Then it seems that the Adelaide chemists are to be subjected to additional trouble in the shape of a dispensary erected by the friendly societies, a form of competition which has also been foreshadowed for us. The development of society business is very great in Adelaide, if we may judge from the salaries that can be paid out of a *per capita* allowance of 10s. per annum. Thirty doctors at 750*l.* each means a membership of 45,000, a somewhat large proportion in a total population of some 200,000. Allowing for the usual proportion of children, one wonders how much private practice is left for division among the other doctors in Adelaide.

The Pharmaceutical Importance

of Mr. Wilson Dougal's paper on "Unusual Sources of Copper" may be considerable, nevertheless the paper represents a large amount of original work and conveys much valuable information, for which every pharmacist will be grateful. Mr. Dougal's deduction that the virtues of some pharmaceutical preparations are due to the destruction of bacteria by the acid they contain is one that is easily verified and exemplified. For instance, a case in point is the effect of dilute sulphuric acid in arresting diarrhoea, this being no doubt due to the destruction by the acid of colonies of the coli bacillus which give rise to the intestinal fermentation that so often causes the trouble. It is also well known that cultures of bacilli produce acid as one of the normal accompaniments of their growth, and unless the media are kept neutral, or slightly alkaline, the development of the organisms is retarded, and a point arises when the bacilli are so enfeebled that they cease to multiply further, being in fact killed by their own acid, or, as one might say, stewed in their own juice. It is an interesting fact also that cold water is one of the best germicides we possess. It has been repeatedly proved of many bacilli that they speedily perish in running water, hence one of the most certain means of purifying sewage effluents not yet free from bacterial contamination is to run it into a stream. Some organisms are specially delicate and cannot survive exposure to a cold of even 60° F. for more than a few hours, though others are more resistant.

The Borax Prosecutions

reported last week have at least one moral written large all over them; it is that chemists should buy chemicals of chemical houses only, and never without a guarantee. We are all familiar with the distinction between commercial and absolute purity, but in

practice it is sometimes forgotten; and it is to be feared that in some shops, where the demand for certain articles is mainly for non-medical purposes, it is not thought necessary to stock any higher quality than such as satisfies the ordinary requirement. But if it is found that competition necessitates the keeping of the commercial quality for sale in large quantities, a quality answering the requirements of the B.P. ought also to be kept for medical purposes, and distinction between the two made upon the labels. My own experience is that to keep only the higher quality for all purposes is the best policy, for even when a considerable sacrifice in profit has to be suffered (it is not usually a very serious one) the collateral results of being known to deal only in "the best" more than repays us. There may be a few exceptions, but there are not many. This is a second moral, and it does not arise directly out of the cases reported, because, so far as the pharmacist was concerned, there was no question of profit; whatever he was supplied with he paid the highest price for it. It is here that my first moral comes in. As pharmacists we have no reason to complain that a higher standard is demanded from us than from oilmen; we exist for the purpose of supplying the highest possible quality of everything we deal in.

Christmas Weather-lore,

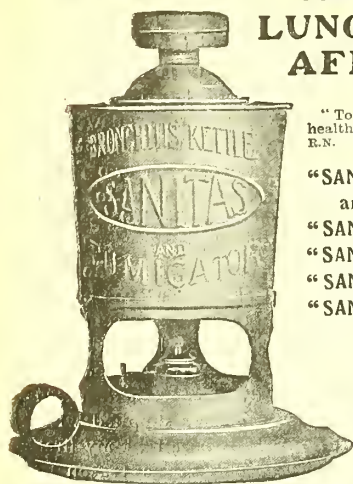
to which reference was made in these columns last week, is ail in the same strain, but is nevertheless quite contrary to fact. There is scarcely a proverb relating to this season which does not represent a mild winter as unhealthy, and yet the returns of the Registrar-General show that the mortality of the winter months is always in proportion to the intensity of the cold, and pharmacists are well aware that their business is most brisk when the weather is most inclement. It may be that our weather-wise ancestors spoke prospectively in these saws, but even so they were wrong. They thought an open winter would have to be paid for by a cold spring, but did not consider a cold spring unhealthy, for they said, "An ague in spring is physic for a king," and, again, "A hot May makes a fat churchyard." And, as a matter of fact, there is no ground for supposing that a frosty winter prevents future epidemics. Ray notes that the winter of 1666-7 was one of the mildest on record, yet was followed by a healthy summer, whereas the great plague of 1665 was preceded by an unusually severe winter. It is, by the way, amusing to hear a snowy Christmas spoken of as "an old-fashioned" one, the Christmases of olden time having been very much what they are now in respect to weather. I possess copies of Partridge's Almanacs for all the years from 1715 to 1745, and in the margins of the calendars some former owner has noted the weather of every week. The average weather at this season was as nearly as possible what we are accustomed to. Three or four times only in all this period a severe Christmas occurred, and in each case it was noted as "A real, old-fashioned Christmas," just as it would be now; but usually the entry is "warm, melch [soft] weather." This was in Yorkshire. So much for tradition!

"DISEASES AND REMEDIES."—The fourth edition of this useful book for chemists has recently been published by the C. & D. It is a concise survey of the most modern methods of medicine, telling the nature of ailments and describing the methods of treatment. The fourth edition has been carefully revised by a general medical practitioner, and certain parts of the book have been entirely rewritten. It is published at 3s. (by post 3s. 3*d.*), and can be obtained from the C. & D. offices in London or Australia and from the wholesale and sundries houses.

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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

Vol. LXXX.

THIS week, with No. 1,667, the eightieth volume of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is commenced. The number is sufficiently large to be venerable, but we should be sorry to advance that as a claim for respect, since our place among the trade journals of the British Empire has not been secured by growing old, but by progressing with the drug-trade and by strict attention to business. It was as a business journal that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST was founded, and while keeping the bread-and-butter point of view as the leading object, the conductors have never neglected those subjects upon which the art of pharmacy is based. Nor have they forgotten that an independent journal is a necessity for chemists and druggists, especially since the pursuit of their business has come under statutory control, a circumstance which too often in the history of the British people has had the effect of warping individual effort and circumscribing enterprise. These sequential results are probably unavoidable, and the fact that they do occur is sometimes taken as evidence that they are natural; if so, they are none the less detrimental, and our experience proves that such pernicious influences upon business can be checked or reduced to a minimum by giving full information in regard to them, promptly or by intelligent anticipation, which is possible only in an independent journal. But these are not the only factors concerned with the reputation and position in the world's Press of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. As representing some of these we may point to the Index of vol. lxxix., which was included in our issue of last week; two like it yearly showing thousands of things which go to the making of the utility of this journal. Yet even these are not a full explanation, for in a large measure the value of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST rests upon the fact that it is subscribed for by the right people, is read by them, and it has become to them an exchange in respect to all that concerns their business. This is well exemplified in our Coloured Supplement, which for fully a quarter of a century has been devoted to announcements respecting businesses and situations which everyone in the drug-trade has personal acquaintance with at some time or another. During the past year we published nearly twelve thousand of these advertisements, and the following

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THE CHEMIST-OPTICIAN. 4/-, by Post 4/3.

ELEMENTARY DISPENSING PRACTICE. 3/6, by Post 3/9.

DISEASES AND REMEDIES. (New Edition.) 3/-, by Post 3/3.

PRACTICAL METHODS OF URINE ANALYSIS. 2/6, by Post 2/9.

THE CHEMISTS' MEDICAL DICTIONARY. 2/6, by Post 2/8.

GUIDE TO PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS. 2/6, by Post 2/9.

MANUAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL TESTING. 2/6, by Post 2/9.

OPENING A PHARMACY. (New Edition.) 2/6, by Post 2/9.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.
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tabular statement regarding them will, we feel sure, interest readers :

	Businesses Wanted	Businesses for Disposal	Situations Open	Situations Wanted
January to March ...	53	565	843	1,394
April to June ...	44	588	1,040	1,156
July to September...	53	587	1,405	1,267
October to December	32	492	664	1,209
	187	2,233	4,152	5,006

From our point of view these figures are a splendid demonstration of the fact that *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* is the masters' business paper. The five thousand assistants who advertised in it last year knew that they were appealing direct to employers, because it is of such that our subscribers consist, with few exceptions, and these chiefly potential masters to whom announcements of businesses for disposal directly appeal. It is interesting to note how the demands for assistants and for situations vary and differ according to the seasons. In the first quarter of the year a greater number of assistants are in the market than at any other period, and at no other time are the opportunities for employment so few as in this quarter. On the other hand, the chief demand for assistants from masters is in the middle of the year, especially the holiday quarter, July to September, due apparently to demand for extra labour in holiday and seaside resorts. The fact must not, however, be overlooked that Supplement announcements are inserted also by the manufacturing and wholesale sections of the trade as well as the retail; this again being an index of the unique position of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* among trade journals. It will also be noted from the table that the number of businesses for disposal is fairly constant throughout the year; the decrease shown in the last quarter may be accounted for by the fact that the end of the business year is near, and it is one of the best quarters for trade. The character of the announcements, apart from their reference to retail, wholesale, or manufacturing, is another important factor; but it cannot be dealt with minutely on this occasion, except to say that every issue of the Supplement reflects the fact that *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* is International as well as Imperial in circulation and influence; there is scarcely a country in the world from which we do not at some time or other get advertisements for our Coloured Supplement. This is symptomatic of the business-bringing properties of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, but this is a moral which we may safely leave in other hands.

American Misbranding.

THE Food and Drugs Act of the United States of America has given rise to many legal questions, and the decisions in some of them are of international importance. Among a number of judgments which have recently been issued officially is one of the alleged misbranding of "Antikamnia Tablets," which illustrates in a pertinent way how officials, even in the United States, carry the law further than they are entitled to. In this case action was taken in respect to 100 packages of antikamnia tablets in the possession of the Washington Wholesale Drug Exchange, it being alleged that they were misbranded in violation of the Act because they contained acetphenetidin (phenacetin), and the label failed to bear a statement that this ingredient is "a derivative of

acetanilide." It will be seen from the *C. & D. Diary*, 1912, p. 444, that the Act requires the name of the substance and its proportion to be on the label. The regulations made under the Act by the Department charged with its administration have gone further, so that it seems that "phenacetin" is not enough to say, and that it must be qualified with the statement as to its being a derivative, etc. The Antikamnia Chemical Co. took up the defence before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and Chief Justice Clabaugh, in the course of his judgment, sustaining the company's contention that the tablets were not misbranded, pointed out that while the three Secretaries have the right to make all needful and necessary regulations for the purpose of carrying the Act into effect, they did more than this in framing the regulations, among them one stating that it is "essential for the manufacturers to place upon the label the derivative and to show not only that it is a derivative, but shall further add to that the drug from which it is a derivative." This regulation he held to be wrong, and that it is not necessary to say on a label of antikamnia tablets that acetphenetidin is a "derivative of acetanilide." This decision has been upheld by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, but the Government Department is taking the case to the Supreme Court of the United States. In this case the initial issue has developed into the much more important question of the right of Government servants to extend statutes by means of regulations beyond the limits laid down by the Statute. The Supreme Court of the United States has had this question already discussed before it, but on a somewhat different issue. It had been held by a grand jury of the Western District of Missouri that the Dr. Johnson Remedy Co. had misbranded "Dr. Johnson's Mild Combination Treatment for Cancer" in violation of the Act, because the drugs comprising the "treatment" bore false and misleading statements as to their therapeutic value in the treatment and cure of cancer. The matter was carried on legal grounds, which need not be entered into here, to the Supreme Court of the United States, and Mr. Justice Holmes (son of the late Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes) delivered the opinion of the Court quashing the indictment. In the course of his judgment Mr. Justice Holmes said by Section 4 of the Act "the determination whether an article is misbranded is left to the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, which is most natural if the question concerns ingredients and kind, but hardly so as to medical effects," and further on he said :

"We shall say nothing as to the limits of constitutional power, and but a word as to what Congress was likely to attempt. It was much more likely to regulate commerce in food and drugs with reference to plain matter of fact, so that food and drugs should be what they professed to be, when the kind was stated, than to distort the uses of its constitutional power to establishing criteria in regions where opinions are far apart."

Mr. Justice Hughes dissented from the judgment, which, it will be observed, puts a curb upon the Department's somewhat notorious decisions in regard to the therapeutic properties of many drugs. These two cases are worth consideration at the present time, when we are on the eve of investigation of the trade in such remedies in this country. So far as secret remedies are concerned the Food and Drug Act of the United States was formulated by agitators such as we have in this country, and some of them are among the administrators of the Act. They have outrun the constable in several directions, and although the remedy provided by the Constitution has been effective, as exemplified in these cases, it is an expensive process. No doubt American as well as Australian

experience will be cited in the British Inquiry; therefore it will be necessary to keep in mind how the American Courts have treated the administration of the American Act, as the judgments (most of them supporting the administration) are most instructive.

Bath Preparations.

In our issue of December 2, 1911, index folio 817, we referred to the change of official opinion regarding the dutiability of preparations to be mixed with the water of the bath, foot-bath tablets being the immediate cause of the observations. In the late Mr. E. N. Alpe's time such preparations were not under any circumstances regarded as being chargeable with medicine stamp-duty. Now they are. A day or two later we received from a subscriber a label bearing the following wording:

URIC-ACID BATH SALTS.

Directions.

Dissolve the contents of one packet in a bath full of hot water.

The water should be as hot as can be comfortably borne.

In severe cases the contents of two packets may be used for one bath.

If it is convenient to use a full bath, or for local affections fomentations may be used for this purpose, use two tablespoonfuls of the uric-acid salts to a gallon of hot water, and bathe the affected parts.

Sole Proprietor: (here followed name and address).

We recommended our subscriber to submit copies of the label to the Board of Customs and Excise, which he did, and he has now received the following reply (No. ¹¹¹²⁰₁₉₁₁ January 1, 1912):

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 6th ultimo, I am directed by the Board of Customs and Excise to inform you that the use of the label in question involves liability to medicine stamp-duty as recommending the preparation for the prevention, cure, or relief of a distemper, malady, ailment, disorder, or complaint, incident to or affecting the human body.

I return the duplicate label, and also enclose, for your information, a memorandum on the subject of this duty.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

J. P. BYRNE, Secretary.

It will be observed that the only references on the label to an ailment are contained in the words "for local affections" and "the affected parts." We do not suppose that the Board consider "uric acid" to be a distemper of the human body, but it is not improbable that uric acid may be so referred to in describing the properties of medicines as to make it appear to be a malady of the human body. Apart from these considerations, it must now be clearly understood by manufacturers and vendors of bath-salts that they come within the general charge of medicine stamp-duty. All printed matter regarding bath-preparations should be revised and reference to ailments eliminated if they are not stamped.

The Insurance Act.

We are indebted to Mr. J. C. Pentney for the following copy of a letter which he has received from his friend Lord Weardale regarding his Lordship's endeavour in the House of Lords to obtain representation for chemists on the Advisory Committee of the National Insurance Act:

3 Carlton Gardens, S.W., December 23, 1911.

DEAR MR. PENTNEY,—I moved your amendments in the House of Lords, but the Government refused to accept any of them. I also saw Mr. Lloyd George about them, and he said he would personally have been glad to see the chemists on the Advisory Committee, but the difficulties were too great.

All good things for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

WEARDALE.

This is rather a surprising letter. Full representation was given to the doctors because their pecuniary interests are affected by the Act. The very same reason applies to chemists, and we should like to know what the difficulties are that Mr. Lloyd George referred to, unless they be the somewhat contemptuous opinions expressed by Viscount Haldane in the House of Lords. Mr. Pentney, in a covering letter to us, says: "My own feeling is that we ought not to be content without representation, and this I think might be obtained by agitation." It is undoubtedly desirable that chemists should not be quiescent in this matter, and we trust that at next week's meeting of the Pharmaceutical Council steps will be taken to secure the representation on the Advisory Committee which Viscount Haldane stated might be obtained through the Insurance Commissioners.

Matters are becoming a trifle less ominous among medical men, but the fire is being kept alive by "The Times," whose subscription department has recently issued a special appeal to medical practitioners offering them reduced terms. Organisations opposed to the British Medical Association or to reform that body from within are in the air, but the chief event of the past week is an attack upon Mr. Smith Whitaker, who has been accused of preventing a division in the House of Commons on "the two-pound limit." This is one of the six cardinal points made by the British Medical Association, and the Government would go no further in the Act than to provide for it by reference. When this was under consideration a division had been arranged for on behalf of the Association, but was abandoned. Mr. Whitaker repudiates responsibility, but admits having written a letter on August 2 expressing the reluctance of medical men to the proposed course. The letter was shown to Sir Philip Magnus (who was leading the medical attack), and he says it influenced his decision not to carry the opposition to a division. Dr. C. Addison, M.P., and Sir Henry Craik, M.P., also join in this "Times" correspondence, which illustrates well the imbroglio that the medical question under the Act has reached.

Imperial Pharmaceutical Reciprocity.

At the November Council-meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the question of reciprocity of pharmaceutical diplomas between Great Britain and the Colonies came nearer realisation. The power to recognise Colonial certificates was given by the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, and at that Council-meeting the necessary by-laws were read a first time. Simultaneously there were submitted to the Colonies, through the Colonial Office, the following suggestions as a basis upon which reciprocity agreements might be arrived at:

(1) No application for registration to be considered from persons who have been registered without examination either in the Colonies or in Great Britain.

(2) Every applicant to produce evidence of having passed a Preliminary examination which in the opinion of the Council is a sufficient guarantee of a sound preliminary educational training.

(3) Every applicant to produce evidence of having served, subsequently to his passing the Preliminary examination, at least three years in the translation and dispensing of prescriptions in the shop of a registered chemist.

(4) Every applicant to produce evidence of sufficient systematic study before entry for the Qualifying examination.

(5) Every applicant to furnish evidence of having passed a Qualifying examination practically equal in scope and standard to the examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and of having registered in the Colony from which he makes his application.

(6) Every applicant to pay fees equal to those paid by candidates for registration under the Pharmacy Acts of Great Britain.

(7) All evidence to be vouched for by the Registrar of the Colonial examining authority granting the certificates produced.

(8) Each examining authority to submit full particulars of scope and standard of examination requirements.

(9) Periodical interchange of examination data to take place between Great Britain and the Colonial Boards.

These suggestions are now being considered by Colonial Pharmacy Boards, and we reprint them from a Canadian contemporary as being of exceptional interest to the home trade as well.

Copaiba.

By Ernest J. Parry, B.Sc., F.I.C.

IN a valuable paper by Cocking (*C. & D.*, 1910, II., 51) it is stated that the optical rotation of the essential oil obtained from genuine samples of copaiba is invariably higher than that of the first 10 per cent. distilled from the oil. This suggested feature of copaiba is recommended as a test for oil of copaiba for adoption in the next edition of the British Pharmacopœia. I trust, however, that this test will not be included, at all events until a good deal of further work has been carried out on this drug, and the object of this note is to give the reasons.

In the first place, the conditions of distillation must be laid down with very great exactitude. From a number of experiments I am convinced that it is a waste of time, to determine the optical rotation of the essential oil at all, unless it be separated from the resin by steam-distillation. It is practically impossible to obtain an essential oil by any other method of distillation which is free from decomposition products of the resin. For instance, a sample recently examined, which yielded 42 per cent. of essential oil on steam-distillation, having an optical rotation $-10^{\circ} 30'$, was carefully distilled at reduced pressure (not exceeding 25 mm.) until 40 per cent. was obtained. This oil had an optical rotation of -7° . The oil so obtained should always be fractionally distilled under very reduced pressure, or it, in its turn, will, as stated by Cocking, undergo some decomposition. This is well illustrated by an example given by Cocking (*loc. cit.*) when the same oil was distilled under reduced pressure and at ordinary pressure:

Fraction	Reduced Pressure	Ordinary Pressure
Original oil	-22.9°	-22.9°
First fraction	-21.3°	-9.3°
Second "	-21.3°	-10°
Third "	-21.1°	-10.2°
Fourth "	-21.5°	-10.4°
Fifth "	-21.7°	-10.5°
Sixth "	-22.8°	-11°
Seventh "	-23°	-11.5°
Eighth "	-23.8°	-11.4°
Ninth "	-24.5°	-9.6°
Tenth "	-27.9°	-10.4°

The enormous differences to be observed here indicate that unless the conditions be absolutely constant, the results will be totally unreliable.

I have recently had occasion to examine several consignments of Maracaibo copaiba, shipped from an undeniably reliable source, which I am sure were genuine, and I do not find that they possess this character—that of yielding an essential oil with a higher optical rotation than that of its first 10 per cent. fraction. Three of these samples had the following characters on fractional distillation of the oil, which was obtained by steam-distillation, and was then fractionated at a pressure of 18 to 25 mm.:

	1	2	3
Original oil	$-10^{\circ} 40'$	-14°	-13°
First fraction	$-12^{\circ} 20'$	-15°	-13°
Second "	$-11^{\circ} 10'$	-14°	$-13^{\circ} 10'$
Third "	$-9^{\circ} 15'$	-13°	-12°
Fourth "	$-9^{\circ} 20'$	-12°	-12°
Fifth "	-10°	$-12^{\circ} 35'$	-12°
Sixth "	$-10^{\circ} 10'$	-13°	$-12^{\circ} 15'$
Seventh "	$-10^{\circ} 12'$	$-14^{\circ} 30'$	$-12^{\circ} 30'$
Eighth "	$-10^{\circ} 30'$	$-14^{\circ} 50'$	$-13^{\circ} 30'$
Ninth "	$-11^{\circ} 20'$	$-15^{\circ} 15'$	$-13^{\circ} 50'$
Tenth "	-12°	-16°	$-14^{\circ} 10'$

These samples were imported direct into England from South America, and were quite normal in character. If the very small increase in the optical rotation of the first fraction were in reality due to the presence of African copaiba, it would indicate so small an adulteration as not to be worth doing.

I suggest that before any test, so obviously on the borderline of accuracy, one way or the other, is adopted for official purposes, it is necessary that a large number of samples of oils distilled from various copaibas by means of steam should be carefully examined.

OPTICAL OBSERVATIONS.

By a Chemist-Optician.

These notes are in most cases supplementary to the information given in "The Chemist-Optician" ("C. & D." Office, 4s.), which is a treatise specially written for Chemists.

The Fitting of Spectacles and Eyeglasses.

ONE point, and that of the greatest importance, is often overlooked in the fitting of glasses—viz., the effect they have on the wearer's personal appearance. Any optician can easily demonstrate this to his own satisfaction by trying on the features of an obliging friend various sizes and patterns of spectacles and eyeglasses, noting how too small a lens on a long, thin face accentuates the length, while a larger lens gives an appearance of greater roundness to the features. Where the pupillary distance admits it, large lenses, as a rule, have a better effect, the point to remember being that as the picture is the essential, and not the frame, spectacles and eyeglasses should be so fitted that a friend meeting the wearer should not be immediately conscious of any alteration in the latter's appearance. When we look round a crowded railway-carriage or tram-car and note the room for improvement in this respect, and reflect upon the loss in comfort and appearance the wearers are sustaining, it behoves us to put our houses in order and see what we can do individually to remedy this condition.

Centering the Lenses.

FIRST, as to centering. This is a point to which every optician worthy of the name in the present day rightly pays attention. Probably the simplest method of measuring the inter-pupillary distance—and also the best—is to measure from the nasal edge of one pupil to the temporal edge of the other while the subject is looking at a distant object, the rule being held at arm's length from the operator. This measurement may be taken as correct for Cx lenses for constant wear, but in the case of Cc lenses 2 mm. should be added to this measurement. For reading, or close work only, a similar measurement while the eyes are converging to the tip of the optician's finger held some 16 in. in front of the client's face will give the required centres, the difference as a rule between distance and near being about 3 mm. This method is not mathematically accurate, but exact enough for all practical purposes.

Height of the Bridge.

THE next important measurement is the height of the lenses on the wearer's nose. Hold the rule with its edge resting level on the bridge of the nose, and note the height of the pupils while the client is looking into your eyes. A very little practice will enable the optician to judge how many millimetres above or below the centres of the lenses the bridge of the spectacles must be placed. Here it is well to point out that common-sense must be exercised in the case of glasses worn constantly, as it is obvious that such can never be in the correct position for all purposes, and the wearer's occupation must determine the position of maximum utility. A lady typist, for instance, looking down at her work all day, reading in the train, and possibly doing fancy work in the evening, needs her glasses at a lower level than a professional musician, who would be holding the head much more erect.

Distance from the Eyes.

THE next point is the distance of the lenses from the eye. There are probably more sinners among us in respect to this adjustment than any other. Nothing looks worse than glasses too far from the eyes, and the simplest rule for fitting is—always put them so close that the eyelashes only just clear the lenses. It may be said here that no measurements, however carefully taken, are equal to the expedient of keeping a range of empty frames for fitting purposes only; any little variation from a stock measurement can be seen at once and a special frame ordered accordingly.

The Forms of Bridges.

IN the present day practically only two forms of spectacle-bridges deserve notice, the saddle and the hoop, the

former satisfying all ordinary requirements, the latter useful, especially with pantoscopic lenses, for reading-glasses when the pupillary distance is narrow and the base of the nose very broad. In the case of extremely narrow centres with broad bridge to the nose, it is often better, for appearance sake, to decenter the lenses "in" rather than use a smaller eye-wire.

Adjustments.

AN otherwise perfect fit is often marred by the optician overlooking the fact that most people have one ear set at a higher level than its fellow, with the result that one glass tilts up and the other down. It is wise to make a rule of seeing always that the glasses set properly before they are sent out; the client rarely objects to calling for this purpose, if the reason is explained. To remedy the unequal set, bend down the temple on the side that droops sufficiently to make both lenses level, taking care to see that the temples are actually resting on the ears. Neglect of this adjustment has disastrous results with cylindrical corrections. Spectacles for reading or close work only should in all cases be angled forward—i.e., the upper portion of the lens should form an obtuse angle with the temple by bending down the temples on both sides about 15°, or ordering the frame to be made with angled joints. Glasses for constant use need only to be angled 5°, as it is manifest that they cannot be angled correctly for all positions.

Bi-focal Hints.

IN fitting bi-focals, it will simplify matters to screw a pair of weak lenses into the selected frame, marking the position of the reading segment on the lenses with an optician's pencil, and noting, when on the wearer's face, if the eyes have a clearance of 2 mm. to 3 mm. above the reading portion when the eyes are looking directly in front. Angle the lenses forward about 5° and instruct the wearer to look down when reading, and not bend the head, as with ordinary reading-glasses. Most of the drawbacks incidental to the wearing of bi-focals have been eliminated by the "Krypton" lens, but I think it is preferable, when possible, to avoid bi-focals and give separate pairs of glasses for distance and reading.

Fitting the Temples.

CARE should be taken that the temples of spectacles touch lightly and evenly the sides of the face, or one lens will stand closer to the eye than the other. When, from want of symmetry in the features, such is the case, open out the joint on the side where the lens is furthest from the eye, and, if necessary, close in the opposite side slightly. When both temples press too tightly and the facial measurements do not admit of employing a larger eye, recourse must be had to longer joints. Keep a few pairs of cable sides in stock, 5½-in., 5¾-in., and 6-in. are the most useful, and do not use too long ones. Shape the curl to the back of the ear so that the pressure does not fall on one place only, remembering that this regulates the pressure on the nose, where the pressure should be no greater than just sufficient to keep the glasses from slipping out of position. If the pressure is too great, reduce it by holding the temple, exactly at the commencement of the curved portion, across the first and second finger, and press on it with the thumb, thus increasing the length of the straight portion.

Eye-glass Fitting.

FROM a professional point of view nothing equals in utility a well-fitting spectacle; still, we are faced with the necessity of catering for the client who insists, however impossible the nose, on wearing some form of clips. Much may be done by the exercise of tact, suggestion of costly breakages, etc., to wean them to the use of spectacles. When, however, it has to be a case for clips, the more simple the pattern the more satisfactory, as a rule, will be the result to the wearer and the optician who fits them. For rimmed work the oval-bar astig. is highly satisfactory. The P.D. is obtained by using larger or smaller lenses. Where the nose is very thin, and large lenses look unsightly, short extension pieces to the placquets, with a smaller lens, get over the difficulty, but there is

often a lack of steadiness in frames thus fitted. This method of employing extensions to the placquets is also of service in cases where the clips set too high on the nose, so that the wearer, when looking down, sees the bottom rim. If slight lowering only is required, a better method is to use pantoscopic lenses. Too great pressure on the nose can be relieved by uncoiling two or three turns of the spring and snipping it off. Tilting of clips, due to greater fullness on one side of the nose, is remedied by curving the upper part of the placquet away from the nose on the drooping side, and bending the opposite placquet, if necessary, towards the nose. Rimless work of late years has come so much to the front that in spite of its disadvantages some attention must be paid to it. Here, again, the simpler mounts, as a rule, are more satisfactory. Some very excellent mounts which keep the lenses quite horizontal are on the market, but their sphere of usefulness is often limited by the fact that it is frequently impossible to get the lenses sufficiently near the eyes. When these fail, a mount of the well-known "Fairy" type often comes in useful, provided the placquets are so manipulated that the wearer cannot easily get cylindrical lenses into a wrong position. My advice on the fitting of both spectacles and eyeglasses is: Use best frames, make correct fitting a study, leave cheap work to the other man—it will not pay you to try to do both. The results, from a business point of view, may not be rapid, but they will most certainly be sure.

Treatment of Cats, Rabbits, and Cavies.

Continuation of the articles entitled "The Pharmacist as a Fanciers' Specialist," by a Chemist-Fancier, "C. & D. Diary," 1912, pp. 459-462.

SOMETIMES cats are classified with rabbits and cavies for purposes of treatment, but on the whole experience shows that cat-doctoring is best conducted on the same lines as dog-doctoring. The average full-grown cat can be treated much as if she were a fox-terrier. It seems superfluous, therefore, to devote space specially to cats, because practically all that has been said in the *Diary* article as to dogs is equally applicable to the feline tribe. Moreover, the methods of administering medicine to rabbits and cavies are quite different from those obtaining with cats. The only way to doctor these small animals is by giving them powders in their food.

The principal diseases of small quadrupeds may be set out very briefly, because it is not necessary to deal at all with externals—sores, scrofula, eye-troubles, and the like—all of which are in effect covered by what has been said about dogs and feathered creatures. Practically three stock remedies in powder-form are necessary in order to meet the needs of the rabbit or cavy man. They are respectively for (a) distemper, (b) bowel-trouble, and (c) aperient purposes. For the first-named the basis may be potas. nit., for the second pulv. catechu or conf. arom., and for the third pulv. jalapæ. These three will cover any likely requirements so far as keeping stock medicines is concerned. Lotions and ointments can be made up as required. To outline the chief diseases, they are:

Bronchial Troubles.—Referable mostly to distemper and needing a suitable nose-sponging lotion of the acid-boracic type, apart from distemper powders.

Ear-canker, Mange, Sores, etc.—Needing antiseptic ointments.

Stomachic Troubles.—Either stoppages or constipation, requiring the aperient-powders or, *per contra*, diarrhoea, requiring the opposite.

Worms.—Amenable to small doses of pulv. areca much in the same way as for dogs and cats.

Liver-disease, which is probably accountable for three-fourths of the death-rate here, and which can be combated by advice as to giving an almost exclusively green-food diet and by the use of the stock aperient-powders.

Rheumatism and Cramp.—This calls for a liniment of the usual type and gives a further opening for the aperient or alternative.

The stock-powders should be recommended to be given in a little barley-meal mixed up into a paste-ball.

Verminitis.

An effective and non-scheduled vermin-killer is here described by T. H. W. (246/44), who tells how to make it and put it up for sale.

MANY rat and mice killers have been placed on the market, and most of them contain strychnine, phosphorus, arsenic, or other strong poisons, whose demerits are in their taste and appearance in tempting the vermin to make a meal of them and perish. I have always found that when one uses killers of the strychnine type that one gets a harvest of dead vermin the first night it is laid down, but try again another night, even at the interval of some weeks between the laying, and there is no harvest. The rats and mice are so cunning, they seem to tell one another, and only a few of the unwary nibble. Arsenic has always been with me a complete failure, my plan in the case of this chemical being to feed for three nights with meal and sugar, and on the fourth night to add some arsenic. The result has never been as satisfactory as one would expect after the big banquets of the preceding nights. Phosphorus is to a certain extent barred, because of its curious smell and light; it has to be well covered up in sliced meat or fish, or with ground dog-biscuit, the vermin gulping down with the rest or accidentally "nosing" it up and devouring it in their voracity. These three substances are the chief poisons used for rats and mice.

I describe my experience with a substance which has been mentioned several times in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST as a vermin-killer, with some additions and modifications of my own—I refer to barium carbonate. All pharmacists know that this is a very insoluble white powder; its taste I do not know, but I should imagine it is tasteless. I required a vermin-killer which, without the bother of registering, is effectual, cheap, and handy to use. This is how I succeeded. I first tried a mixture of barium carbonate and sugar without apparent success, the result being one little mouse. I therefore concluded that some other chemical would have to be added or I should not be wholly successful, and my search was for this. White precipitate, calomel, and sugar of lead were tried in various admixtures of sugar, meat, lard, etc., with only moderate success. Until I tried the effect of a very obscure substance—viz., nickel sulphate—the effect was marvellous. With the object of giving my fellow-pharmacists another successful side-line, I append my formula, and the mode of making:

Spratt's crissel, fine	...	...	...	½ lb.
Nickel sulphate	...	...	...	1 oz.
Tallow	...	...	...	2 oz.
Margarino	...	...	...	4 oz.
Barium carbonate	...	...	...	6 oz.
Oil of aniseed	...	...	...	30 minims
Oil of fennel	...	...	...	20 minims
Water	...	...	...	a sufficiency

Place the nickel sulphate with about 4 oz. of water in a pan, dissolve this, add the crissel and almost evaporate to dryness, stirring the whole time; then the barium carbonate, tallow, and margarine. Melt, and mix well; remove from the source of heat and stir in the essential oils, continuing the stirring until quite solid.

For use spread on the edge of chunks of bread with a stick, or put on the sticks themselves. The Pied Piper had no better charm to offer than this appetising fare. In 1-oz. tins this sells at 3d., 3-oz. for 6d. I contemplate putting up in 1d. 2-drachm tins. The profit is good, the effect on rats and mice magical. I will not tell you what I call it, but suggest such names as "Rat-kill," "Micene," and "Pesticide." I would also suggest a new way of putting these up—viz., in a collapsible tube (a mixture of barium carbonate, margarine, and tallow, with or without oils) as a neater-looking package. Many of the sundry houses advertising in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST supply these empty tubes.

My experience extends over many years, and covers a case where rats were so plentiful in a house as to jump on the table while the family were dining, as well as one of clearing sewage farms many acres in extent.

REVIEWS.

Bookkeeping Down to Date. By ANDREW MUNRO. 7½ in. by 4¾ in. Pp. 696 + xl. Fifth edition. 3s. 6d. (London: Effingham Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street, E.C.)

WHEN we reviewed the second edition of this book in 1906 it contained less than a third the number of pages it now holds, which is an indication that the scope of the work has been considerably extended. After defining bookkeeping, the subject is considered under the following divisions: The ledger, the purchases book, sales book, returns book, cash books, banking, the journal, balancing, bills of exchange, bill books, consignment accounts, joint accounts, partnership accounts, capital and revenue, depreciation, bad-debt provisions, profit and loss accounts, tabular bookkeeping, contract accounts, branch accounts, sectional ledgers, single-entry bookkeeping, double-account system, bankruptcy, company accounts, reserves and sinking funds, income and expenditure accounts, insurance accounts, royalties, income-tax, and cost accounts, each section being furnished with exercises for the student. There are also some 200 pages of papers given at the examinations of various bodies who grant certificates in bookkeeping. The articles on the different matters noted above are written in simple language such as will interest the student. The chief feature of the Appendix is a glossary of mercantile terms. Chemists who desire to improve their knowledge of bookkeeping will find this book of great utility.

Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis. A Treatise on the Properties, Modes of Assaying, and Proximate Analytical Examination of the Various Organic Chemicals and Products employed in the Arts, Manufactures, Medicine, etc., with Concise Methods for the Detection and Estimation of their Impurities, Adulterations, and Products of Decomposition. Edited by W. A. DAVIS, B.Sc., A.C.G.I., and SAMUEL S. SADTLER, S.B. Fourth edition. Vol. V. 9½ in. by 6½ in. Pp. 614. 21s. net. (London: J. & A. Churchill, 7 Great Marlborough Street.)

ALTHOUGH it is only five years since the third edition of this volume was published, a revision has been issued in accordance with the plan of bringing the whole work up to date. This volume deals with

Tannins, by W. P. Dreaper.

Analysis of Leather, by W. P. Dreaper.

Dyes and Colouring-matters, by W. P. Dreaper and E. Feilmann.

Dyestuffs of Groups 6 to 12, by J. T. Hewitt.

Colouring-matters of Natural Origin, by W. M. Gardner.

Analysis of Colouring-materials, by W. P. Dreaper and E. Feilmann.

Colouring-matters in Foods, by Albert F. Seeker.

Inks, by Percy H. Walker.

The section on Colouring Matters in Foods is new to the book; it occupies about fifty pages, and deals with the methods of detecting all the colours, natural and artificial, likely to be found in food. The chapter on Inks describes the methods of testing writing-inks, the chemical examination of ink-marks, cancelling-inks, rubber-stamp inks, typewriter ribbons, and carbon-papers, the processes being frequently those used officially in the United States. Dr. Hewitt has treated the subject of dyestuffs of Groups 6 to 12 in an exhaustive manner, the information here given being otherwise difficult of access, as those will testify who have had occasion to attempt to identify aniline colours. The greater part of the chapter is in table form, this being a convenient way in analyses depending on the action of a definite set of chemicals. Professor Gardner's section (Colouring Matters of Natural Origin) deals with many substances of special interest to pharmacists, such as logwood, catechu, turmeric, gamboge, saffron, annatto, cochineal, cudbear, alkanet, litmus, and madder, the differentiation of which is not always an easy task. Mr. Dreaper's subjects are well treated, and the work may be taken as authoritative, the author being one of the leaders in these fields of analysis. This volume well sustains the reputation of the series.

ΦΑΡΜΑΚΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ: ΧΗΜΙΚΑ ΟΡΓΑΝΙΚΑ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΑ ΚΑΙ ΤΑ ΕΚ ΤΟΥΤΩΝ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΟΤΕΧΝΙΚΑ ΣΚΕΤΑΣΜΑΤΑ. By Professor A. K. DAMBERGIS. 10 in. by 7 in. Pp. 874. With a portrait of the author. (Athens, 1911: S. K. Blastous.)

PROFESSOR A. DAMBERGIS, the author of the national Greek Pharmacopoeia, has done much to raise the standard of pharmacy in that classic country. One of the great drawbacks by which the Greek pharmacist has been confronted is the absence of standard text-books in his own language, and for the past fifteen years Professor Dambergis has been at work preparing a handbook on materia medica designed to supply this want. This second volume of his "Pharmakographia" deals with materia medica supplied by organic chemistry, and is worthy of a place beside the standard works of other nations. The substances dealt with are grouped according to their chemical relationship under the headings monobasic, dibasic, tribasic, and aromatic acids. Then follow chapters on alkaloids, halogen substitution-products, alcohols, aldehydes, ethers, phenols, amines, glucosides. Each chapter is preceded by an introduction in which the principal characters of the preparations to be dealt with are mentioned; in the case of the alkaloids the well-known reagents are enumerated. The principal substance of each group is fully described, mode of preparation, including chemical phenomena involved, tests, and therapeutic uses are concisely stated. These data are followed by a list of galenical preparations into which the substance enters, a few formulae for prescriptions, and a full description of its salts or derivatives, not omitting the synthetic preparations or proprietary products in which it may figure. The work has been carefully compiled, and contains an immense amount of information of the greatest value to pharmacists, the more so as it is thoroughly up to date and has been elaborated with the view of supplying just the information required; and in this respect the author has been successful in attaining his aim. A very complete index greatly facilitates the use of the volume. Professor Dambergis is to be congratulated on his work, and Greek pharmacists have reason to be proud of his efforts on their behalf. It is regrettable, however, that the preparation of this compendium should have cost its author the loss of the sight of one eye.

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

American Text-book of Operative Dentistry. 4th edit. 8vo. 26s. net. (H. Kimpton.)

Austen Leigh, E. C., M.A. *English Clubs for 1912.* 6½×4. 3s. 6d. (Spottiswoode & Co., Ltd.) [A list of over 4,000 clubs frequented by the English in all parts of the world. It is most conveniently arranged, and gives all the particulars anyone wants to know about clubs of all kinds. Golf Clubs are a feature, and 500 Ladies' Clubs are mentioned.]

Bell, E. *Movable-leaf Books and Card Accounts: A Handbook to Loose-leaf Account Books, Filing Accessories, and other Office Appliances.* 9½×6¼. Pp. 62. (Whitaker & Sons, Ltd., 12 Warwick Lane, London, E.C.) [Those who desire to know the points in favour of loose-leaf ledgers and card systems will find this pamphlet very useful, the author being an expert on these modern methods. Various kinds of ledgers are dealt with, and the features of each explained. The last chapters deal with the card system and methods of filing.]

Maiden, J. H. *A Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus.* Vol II. Part 3. 12½×10. Pp. 34, with 4 plates. 2s. 6d. (Sydney: New South Wales Government.) [The description, synonyms, ranges, and affinities of six species of eucalyptus are dealt with.]

Rose, T. G. *Cost Price Assurance. A Guide to Policies Yielding 3 to 4 per cent. (compound interest), according to Age at Entry.* 6th edit. Pp. 16. 6d. (London: Effingham Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street.) [A pamphlet written from the point of view of the life-insurance broker, whose business it is to find the office making the most advantageous terms for the would-be assurer. Variations are shown in the valuation rates and expenses of carrying on the companies.

Although the companies are not identified, the pamphlet will interest those who are about to insure their lives.]

Sewill, H. *Quackery and Medical Law Reform. A Plea for a Royal Commission.* Pp. 32. 6d. net. (King & Son.) [A pamphlet consisting of reprints of papers contributed by Mr. Sewill to "Vanity Fair" during 1910. The author has a grievance against the Press because the subject, he alleges, is ignored by newspapers.]

Smith, W. G. *Incompatibility and Some of its Lessons.* 2nd edit. 8½×5½. Pp. 41. Paper covers. 1s. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.) [Dr. Smith is King's Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the School of Physic of Trinity College, Dublin, and the booklet has been written presumably in the course of his professorial duties. Incompatibility is defined as "any unintentional change which notably interferes with the elegance, usefulness, or safety of a prescription." Pharmaceutical incompatibility is first dealt with, but the main part of the booklet refers to chemical incompatibility. This is grouped under two headings: homogeneous system (unattended by any visible change of form) and heterogeneous system (attended by visible change of form), and in studying the subject various other divisions are carried out which assist the student in grasping the underlying principles. An appendix deals with changes which drugs undergo by time and exposure.]

Smith, W. J. *Practical Guide to Surgical Bandaging and Dressings.* 2nd edit. 16mo. Pp. 190. 2s. (Scientific Press.)

Stark, A. C. *Aids to Practical Pharmacy for Medical Students.* 6½×4. Pp. 165. 2nd edit. 2s. 6d. cloth, 2s. paper, net. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.) [Contains all the information required by a student who is preparing for the practical pharmacy examination of the Conjoint Examining Board of Physicians and Surgeons in England. The book follows pretty closely the syllabus of the examination, and gives the facts and explanations in a concise manner. It would be useful to chemists' apprentices as a first book in pharmacy. The author is a pharmaceutical chemist who afterwards qualified as a medical man.]

"Pharmaceutical Formulas."

New and Revised Edition.

At a meeting of the Research Committee of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, held at Toronto on November 24, the following resolution was passed and embodied in the report to the Council:

"Your committee is pleased to acknowledge receipt of a complimentary copy of 'Pharmaceutical Formulas' from the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST as an evidence of appreciation on his part of the new edition of the 'Canadian Formulary,' a copy of which was presented to him, and to which he graciously refers in the preface to his compilation. It is recommended that suitable recognition of this courtesy be transmitted by the Chairman of this committee through the Registrar Treasurer. We cannot allow this timely opportunity to pass without making particular mention of the highly valuable, practical information presented in the contents of 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,' and would commend its habitual perusal by all working pharmacists."

"The eighth edition of this useful work, of which the first edition was published in 1898, has undergone a thorough revision, with the result that there are 450 alterations and annotations in the text, while the new formulas number more than 400. Some idea of the wide scope of the book may be gathered from the chapter headings: Toilet Preparations and Specialities; Preparations for the Hair; Dental Preparations; Perfumes; Beverages; Culinary and Household Requisites; Horticultural and Agricultural Preparations; Writing Materials; Varnishes, Polishes, and Stains; Lozenges; Miscellaneous Preparations; Photographic Chemicals and Preparations; Galenical and Medicinal Preparations; Bacteriological and Microscopic Work Preparations; supplementary chapter on 'Skin Creams'; and an Appendix of Weights and Measures, Medicine Stamp Duties, Use of Methylated Spirit, the Rideal-Walker Test for Disinfectants, Food and Drug Standards of Australia and the United States, Proprietary Medicines in Canada, Garden Pests, and Board of Agriculture Leaflets. There is a very full index. Many of the subjects are introduced by a brief descriptive essay. The synoptical reference list, prepared for the seventh edition, now having lost its interest and utility, has been omitted so as to make room for the hundred or more pages of new formulas that have been added. It will be seen that the book embraces a wide range of information that will be found useful, not only to druggists, but to medical men, dentists, physiologists, photographers, veterinary surgeons, farmers, gardeners, housewives, and, in fact, to almost everyone."—The Lancet.

LITERARY NOTES.

Medicine in Uganda.—The medicine of the people of Uganda, before the acquisition of their country by the British, as it is described by Mr. Roscoe in his valuable work "The Baganda," appears to have been less purely magical than that of many savage tribes. Magic did enter largely into the treatment of disease, and diagnosis depended mainly on various methods of divination, such as the scattering of coffee-beans, castor-oil seeds, or pieces of leather, and observing the order in which they fell; but bleeding and blistering were resorted to for local pains in the head or elsewhere, and herbs selected for specific purposes were used both internally and for outward application. Bleeding was effected by cupping, blistering by the application of hot irons; for bad coughs the lungs were cupped. Vapour-baths and herbal draughts were the usual remedies for fevers of all kinds, but Mr. Roscoe, unfortunately, does not say what herbs were used in these or other cases, except that datura was employed as a State ordeal poison. Medicine was considered doubly efficacious if drunk out of a fetich-bowl, and fetiches themselves were largely worn both as preventives of sickness and as remedies. Amulets, too, which differed from fetiches in being made entirely of wood or herbs, whereas fetiches were composite, were both worn and taken for the same purposes. Disease in general was thought to be due to the malignant influence of ghosts, which were both venerated and feared; they were sometimes beneficent, but seem to have been always of an exceedingly "touchy" character, and evil was sure to befall anybody who neglected to keep their graves in good order. Bubonic plague was the disease most feared, and it is noteworthy that it was referred to rats. Small-pox was imported; it was treated by draughts of water in which fish had been boiled, or of butter and water. A common way of getting rid of sickness was by transferring it to some other person, or to an animal or a plantain-tree. The mode of transference was horribly cruel, involving the mutilation and subsequent murder of the "scapegoat," whether human or otherwise. The medicine-men were not priests, but were considered a religious caste. They had more real power than either the priests or the mediums of the different gods; the latter were a kind of prophets who delivered the messages of the gods, much after the fashion of the classic oracles. The fee paid to a medicine-man by an ordinary member of the tribe was a fowl for diagnosis, a goat for a cure; people of high rank paid a goat in the former case, a cow in the latter. Medicine appears to have been a fairly lucrative profession.

"Balarin, Pharmacien," the title of M. Richard Manoir's latest novel, leads one to suppose that the principal plot passes behind the carboys. As a matter of fact (writes our Paris correspondent), the pharmacist plays a minor (although creditable and, above all, extremely original) rôle in this entertaining story. Olivier Saint-Géry is attacked in a railway carriage, and thrown senseless and apparently dead on to the line. His assassin assumes his clothes and his name and continues his journey to America to present himself to the wealthy uncle who has invited his unknown nephew to join him and share his fortune. Meanwhile, unsuspecting the tragedy, Olivier's sisters continue their calm existence at La Théole, in the old house "in front of which the pharmacist's window shows the traditional red and green carboys (a novelty introduced years ago to La Théole when one of the ancestors of "Balarin, Pharmacien," made a journey as far as the county town) and some yellowish phials, where the proofs of the efficacy of a famous teniafuge had piteously soaked for ten years past. To avoid the possibility of inattention, the name "Balarin"—in letters 2 ft. long, vigorously gilded—stood out from an enormous sloped blackboard surmounted by a bronze mortar. This shop-front had impressed itself on Olivier's youthful memory. He is picked up on the railway line stunned and half dead, is nursed back to life; but his memory is gone, he remembers nothing. He falls into the hands of a kindly doctor, who takes a professional interest in this singular case. One day they pass a pharmacy together. The carboys recall childish memories, a fact he mentions to his friend, and when they enter Olivier unconsciously addresses the pharmacist as "Monsieur Balarin." The friend says nothing, buys some plaster, and asks the pharmacist in an offhand and casual manner if he stocks "Balarin's pills." The name being unfamiliar, the pharmaceutical directory is referred to, and Balarin's address at La Théole is found. The doctor conducts Olivier to his native town, and in the rue Haute they find the pharmacy under the bronze mortar. Hardly had Olivier caught sight of the familiar carboys than he turned to "the great grey house opposite," gave a "strangled cry," and, "bounding across the street," pulled the chain of the old-fashioned bell of the home of his childhood. The wanderer

returned and the false Olivier unmasked, the usual happy ending in the form of a wedding takes place between the doctor and Olivier's sister Suzanne. "Let us invite Balarin," suggests the bride. "We owe him an invitation, I am sure." Needless to say, sweet seventeen gains her point. Balarin turns out to be an eligible bachelor of thirty-five and Suzanne, looking at her elder sister, remarks, "I have the doctor, she will have the pharmacist; we shall be a united family." This little romance, alas! does not come off, and a few years later the still maiden aunt is teaching Olivier's eldest boy his alphabet. "I can't read them from the book," the youngster protests; "but look at the nice big gold letters opposite." And he spells out, as his father spelled before him, the sign "Balarin, Pharmacien."

Almanacks, Diaries, etc.

MR. W. DENNIS, chemist and optician, High Street, Saxilby, sends out an almanack-calendar, which, besides the usual features, gives ample particulars of his special preparations. Mr. Dennis's photograph appears on the front cover.

MESSRS. BELL & SON, chemists and opticians, Stapleford, issue an almanack which carries with it a free-insurance coupon for 200l., and contains some pages of local information, including a time-table. An illustration is given of the firm's new premises into which the business was moved last year.

THE INTERNATIONAL BOTTLE CO., 103 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., send out an office file, the front being occupied with a neat advertisement of the glass bottles and jars which they sell. The file is useful for keeping together invoices and the like, and at the same time reminds the user of the goods which the Bottle Co. sell.

THE almanack sent out by Mr. Frederick Gibson, wholesale manufacturing chemist, Gooch Street, Birmingham, especially advertises the proprietary articles and packed goods for which the firm are well known in the Midlands. Among the illustrations is one of a Birmingham tramcar, upon which is an advertisement of "Gibson's Herb Pills."

"DIXON'S EAST GRINSTEAD FAMILY ALMANACK AND DIRECTORY" is published by Messrs. W. H. Dixon & Sons, chemists, East Grinstead. A feature is a series of photographs of the firm, the principal members of the staff, the two shops, and the aerated-water factory. The directory of local residents and the almanack together ensure that the book will be kept for reference throughout the year.

"DAY'S ANNUAL," which is sent out by Messrs. Day & Sons, Crewe, Ltd., Animal-medicine Works, Crewe, has an attractive illuminated cover, the subject of the illustration in the front being a Russian vehicle. Following a complete list of Day's animal medicines is postal information, columns for recording milk yield, etc., ready reckoners, and farmers' and breeders' tables, and a series of articles on "Improvement of the Milking Properties of the Cow," "Country Sports of our Ancestors," "A Wasp Year," and some "Modern Developments in Dairying." The diary pages are at the end. It is a most useful annual, and sure to be appreciated if distributed to the farmers of a district.

MESSRS. C. R. HARKER, STAGG & MORGAN, LTD., wholesale druggists, Devon Wharf, Emmott Street, Mile End, London, E., are sending out a wall calendar which possesses several special features. The card measures 16 in. by 10 in., and the calendar is contained on monthly tear-offs. Illustrations are given of the present premises and the old premises where the business was founded in 1820. The calendars also give a portrait of the representative of the company in the district where the customer resides. The back of the calendar is utilised for tables of useful information required by pharmacists. These include an alcohol-conversion table by Mr. F. C. J. Bird, weights and measures equivalents, thermometric conversion, money equivalents, freezing-mixtures, income and wages table, and postal information. This is a selection which it would be difficult to match from the point of view of utility.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 20, 1911.)

- "DIAMOND DUST"; for gelatine (42). By W. J. Bush & Co. Ltd., 28 Ash Grove, Hackney, London. 336,427.
- "GOLDEN BLOOM"; for food substances (42). By A. Boake, Roberts & Co., Ltd., 100 Carpenter's Road, Stratford, Essex. 337,368.
- "MONITOR"; for various goods (47) and for perfumery (48). By Bird & Son, Ltd., Glamorgan Works, East Moors, Cardiff. 337,332/3.
- "DODO BRAND"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Hodgson & Simpson, Ltd., Bebington, near Birkenhead. 335,299.
- "SALOMÉ" and scroll label design; for perfumed soap (48). By John Knight, Ltd., Royal Primrose Soap Works, Silvertown, London, E. 331,963.
- Label design including words "CHERRY TOOTH-PASTE"; for a teeth-preparation (48). By John Gosnell & Co., Ltd., 213-215 Blackfriars Road, London. 335,299.
- "WARNO"; for toilet articles (48). By Warner Oliver, Ltd., 4 Holles Street, London, W. 337,826.
- "ASTINE"; for all goods (48). By Edwards' Harlene Co., 95-96 High Holborn, London, W.C. 337,918.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 27, 1911.)

- "SODA BRAND" and label device of "split" soda-water bottle; for caustic soda and soda ash and crystals (1). By Ammonia Soda Co., Ltd., Lostock Gralam, Cheshire. 336,966.
- "ANTOX"; for goods (1). By C. A. Line, 39 Beaufort Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. 337,389.
- "ZONAX"; for chemicals (1). By W. Canning & Co., 133-137 Great Hampton Street, Birmingham. 337,415.
- "HYDRA"; for photographic developers (1). By Paget Prize Plate Co., Ltd., Watford. 337,817.
- "CAKETTE"; for all goods (2 and 3); "CAKELETTES," for all goods (44). By J. Bibby & Sons, King Edward Street, Liverpool. 334,926/7, 333,978.
- "SMITH'S CASCARA COMPOUND" and facsimile signature; for a medicine (3). By J. A. Smith, 68-69 Shoe Lane, London, E.C. 337,070.
- "QUINASP"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Prichard & Constance, Ltd., 64 Haymarket, London, S.W. 337,234.
- "ASMYN"; for medicated articles and medicines (3). By 79 Eastbank Street, Southport, Lancs. 337,688.
- "SANGFA"; for medicines (3). By Dow Bros., 433 Green Lanes, Harringay, N. 337,908.
- "MENTHO-GLAXINE" and "REMOZAPOR"; for medicines (3). By M. E. Trayser, 68-69 Shoe Lane, London, E.C. 338,052/3.
- "KU-U-NO-KI"; for essential oils (3). By C. A. Jones, 85 Victoria Dock Road, London, E. 338,085.
- "OZONAIR" (by order); for ozone-producing apparatus (3). By Ozonair, Ltd., 96 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 327,633.
- "FON"; for surgical apparatus (11). By "Sanitas" Electrical Co., Ltd., 131d Friedrichstrasse, Berlin, N. 24. 336,539.
- "ARKADINE," "EIDERMAX" and "PARRERMAX"; for surgical contrivances (11). By Anderson, Anderson & Anderson, Ltd., 35 St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C. 337,617, 337,619, 337,621.
- "SARTO"; for beverages (42). By H. Tushaus, 47 Heidener Chaussee, Borken, Germany. 336,630.
- Label device of turtle and cup; for extract of turtle-meat (42). By Turtle Cup (1911), Ltd., 14 St. Mary Axe, London, E.C. 335,369.
- "COUR DE JEANNETTE"; for perfumery, etc. (47). By Piessé & Lubin, 28 South Molton Street, London, W. 334,036.
- "NUCRINIS"; for hair-restorer (48). By Isaac Newton & Son, 108 Market Street, Droydsden, Manchester. 335,510.
- Label design, including words "POINSETTA EONTA" ("Poinsetta" disclaimed); for perfumery, etc. (48). By J. & F. Atkinson, Ltd., 24 Old Bond Street, London, W. 336,757.

"GABELLENE"; for a hair-wash (48). By A. A. Carnell, 2 Imperial Mansions, 170 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. 337,485.

"SCYTHIN"; for a toilet-preparation (43). By R. G. Neave, 49 Market Square, Witney, Oxfordshire. 337,692.

POISONING FATALITIES.

EIGHT deaths have been reported since our last issue as due to poisons. In six cases death was accidental.

Ammonia.—At Dublin, Annie Kearns died from misadventure through taking ammonia instead of glycerin.

Caustic Soda.—At Southampton a four-year-old boy named James Black died from the effects of taking some caustic-soda solution which he found in a cup on the kitchen table at his parents' home.

Eucalyptus Oil and Camphorated Oil in admixture were administered by a Blaydon miner named Wm. Thos. Harrison to Reuben, his nine-months-old son, in mistake for cod-liver oil. The child died almost immediately afterwards.

Laudanum.—A Nottingham Coroner's jury found that Leonard Love (34), hawker, died from the effects of taking laudanum during a fit of alcoholic madness.—A verdict of death from misadventure was returned at the inquest at Islington on Wm. Ormgreen Marks (49), carman. During the hearing of evidence Miss Minnie Farr, chemist and druggist, 39 St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, stated that a few days before she served a man with sixpennyworth of laudanum, practically an ounce. He said that he was a carman, and wanted to give a dose to a colicky horse.—J. T. Stableforth (67), of Bayswater, was a laudanum drinker, and died on December 30 from an overdose. At the inquest on January 4 a chemist stated that he sold deceased two 8 oz. bottles of laudanum at a time. The jury expressed the opinion that he should be censured.

Salt of Lemon was the agent used for suicidal purposes by Jane Ann Cocker (22), Pendleton, whose wedding had been put off.

Spirit of Salt taken in mistake for a draught of medicine was responsible for the accidental death of Amos John Griffiths (37), hawker, Birmingham.

Fervoral.—A Buxton schoolmistress named Ellen Jeffery, (51) took a fatal dose of this drug in an endeavour to procure sleep.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

LAVENDER-GROWING was dealt with in the October issue of "The Journal of the Board of Agriculture." It is pointed out that there is difficulty in disposing of any large quantity of lavender in places where no stills exist, but it is added, there is a fair market for bunches of lavender-flowers in most large towns.

A CUCUMBER AND MELON DISEASE new to Great Britain is described in the "Journal of the Board of Agriculture" for November, an illustration of the fungus being given. It is *Colletotrichum oligosporum*, Caviar. It is stated that every part of the plant is liable to attack by the fungus, and seedlings are often killed in large numbers, owing to the seed-leaves or cotyledons and stem being destroyed. The "Journal" states that neither flowers of sulphur nor Bordeaux mixture checks the progress of this disease when once fairly established, but, on the other hand, a solution of liver of sulphur 1 oz. dissolved in 3 or 4 gals. of water, depending on the relative "hardness" of the foliage, arrests its progress, as also does "self-boiled lime-sulphur mixture." Diseased leaves and fruit should be removed during the early stage of the disease before the spores are mature.

"FARMING IN SPAIN" is described by Mr. E. T. Brown in the "Journal of the Board of Agriculture" for November, and in the course of it he states that "all classes of persons employed in agricultural pursuits are to be obliged, under pain of a fine of 50 pesetas (37s.), to report to the committee any cases of pests which may come under their observation. All agriculturists are obliged to adopt such measures as may be prescribed by the committee and sanctioned by the Government inspectors. A scale of fines is laid down for non-compliance, and of compensation for damage suffered by individuals through measures of isolation, etc. Steps are to be taken to spread a knowledge of pests and of the methods of dealing with them. The scheme is to be financed by the formation in each district of a fund which may not exceed 5 per cent. of the capital sum at which the district is assessed for taxation under the heading of 'Agricultural wealth.'"

WINTER SESSION.

Association Presidents.

THE President of the Preston and District Chemists' Association this session is Mr. Joseph Fearon Burnett, Ph.C., who



MR. J. F. BURNETT.

is in business at 254 Fylde Road, Preston, the shop in which the late Mr. Mark Hargreaves carried on business for many years. Mr. Burnett served a six-years' apprenticeship in a manufacturing district, and after that had a good all-round experience of the drug-trade, having held situations both in the retail and wholesale in London and the provinces, and he was ten years on the road before he started in Preston. He passed the Minor examination in July 1883, and the Major in June 1884. Under his guidance the Preston Association will

continue the career of independent criticism and useful work for which it is noted.

Brief Records.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.—The paper on "The Physiology of a Meal," to be read on March 14, is to be by Mr. Ernest H. F. Brittain.

Association of Women Pharmacists.—The following is the programme of meetings to be held during the second half of the session:

Tuesday, February 6, at 8 p.m., at Dr. Williams's Library, Gordon Square, W.C.: "Esperanto and its Relation to Pharmacists," by Mrs. Freke.

Tuesday, April 2, at 8 p.m., at Gordon Hall, Gordon Square, W.C.: "Notes on an Old Herbal," by Miss M. Buchanan, Ph.C.; "Milk and its Sterilisation," by Miss A. Gilliatt, Ph.C.; and "Field Rambles," by Miss C. Andrews, Ph.C.

Tuesday, May 21, at 8 p.m., at Dr. Williams's Library, Gordon Square, W.C.: "Current Pharmaceutical Politics," by Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolcock.

Tuesday, June 25, at 8 p.m., at Gordon Hall, Gordon Square, W.C.: Annual business-meeting.

Members are invited to bring friends to all meetings, except to the annual business-meeting.

Wrexham Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on January 1 at the Imperial Hotel, Wrexham. There were present Mr. C. G. Caldecott (Chairman), Messrs. L. B. Rowland, A. Ll. Francis, W. F. Harlowe, L. Edwards, W. Jones (Rhos), D. Evans (Rhos), J. E. Jones (Cefn), and J. B. Francis (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Harlowe, successor to Messrs. Barker & Son, was welcomed as a new member. Arrangements were made for Mr. Woolcock's visit on January 17.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT

was the subject of a paper read by Mr. J. B. Francis. He began by stating that although a natural resentment against change may make the Act unpopular at the start, there is no doubt that the Act will usher in an entirely new era and change the condition of pharmacy for the better. The Insurance Act, he said, is misunderstood because pharmacists cannot altogether get away from the capitation idea of 2s., and overlook the important fact that no offer at all has yet been made. No scale is mentioned in the Act, and no suggestion that the payment should be so much for each member of a society. On the contrary, Section 15, Sub-clauses 7 and 8, provides unlimited funds for medical service and benefits. Although some time must elapse before the regulations are issued as approved by the Commissioners, Mr. Francis predicted that the Act will be worked in the following manner: The insured person will go to or send for his doctor, the doctor will prescribe and give his order for medical requirements. The pharmacist will enter these requirements in his insurance register, charge according to

schedule, send his bill to the Insurance Office with the vouchers, and in due course receive payment.

The fact must not be overlooked when arranging prices that the Insurance Act will affect the cost of production of drugs and medical requirements, so that the price-lists of 1912 will not be suitable for the year 1913, when the medical benefit begins. Care must also be taken to secure representation on the Insurance Committee, in order to secure fair remuneration for services rendered and goods supplied. No pharmacist will suffer any disqualification by becoming a member of such committee. The Insurance Committee would have to arrange matters so that the prices agreed upon were private, otherwise the minimum insurance prices would, if they became public property, become the standard prices of the other two-thirds of the community not insured, because it is clear that wives and children do not come within the scope of the Act. This would bring loss and bankruptcy to many if not carefully guarded against. Drug store proprietors and unqualified shopkeepers have not gained anything, said Mr. Francis, but the empty right to see their name on the panel. The chemist who gets the prescription will certainly get the business for accessories. No one will take part of a prescription, say, for "linseed meal" to a drug-store, as cheapness will not appeal to people who have not to pay the bill.

A discussion followed, and a resolution was passed urging local pharmaceutical associations to secure on all County Insurance Committees at least two pharmacists.

Birkenhead and Wirral Association of Pharmacists.

A meeting was held at Birkenhead on December 14. Mr. Stelfox (the President) in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Stones, Cragg, James, Pott, Mellor, Somerville, Cookson, W. Snow, Ellithorne, Govier, Lewis, Kendall, Elder, Wynne, Woodfield Cooke, Welton, Stephen Jones, W. G. Snow, Grant, White, and H. S. Welton. Mr. Harold Wyatt read a paper on

DISPENSING DIFFICULTIES.

Mr. Wyatt commenced by stating that Latin is rapidly becoming a thing of the past; doctors use it now simply to disguise their intentions from their patients. After some remarks on fundamental principles he gave the following examples of difficulties:

Sod. bicarb. ...	...	...	...	5ijj.
Magnes. calc. ...	...	...	...	5iij.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	...	3vj.

In this case the results obtained vary, depending on the condition of the magnesia. When first dispensed, the mixture shook up easily, and there was no complaint made. Dispensed again in another pharmacy, the mixture went solid. In other cases heavy magnesia was used, with varying results. There remained in the bottle caustic soda and a deposit of carbonate of magnesia. In the first case the calcined magnesia used had evidently been partly converted into carbonate—to what extent would depend on circumstances and exposure; probably each particle of calcined magnesia would be coated by particles of carbonate. In the second case the mag. calc. was in better condition, and everything favoured the formation of sodium hydrate. Heavy magnesia is more liable to deterioration, as it is generally sent out in a parcel, while the light is supplied in a bottle. In a case like this the patient would be getting a more than a safe dose of caustic soda, and it would be quite proper to use magnes. carb. instead of the oxide if the doctor could not be got at.

Liq. hyd. perchlor. ...	...	...	...	5ss.
Sod. citratis ...	...	...	...	gr. xx.
Lac. bismuth. ...	...	...	...	5iij.
Spt. chlorof. ...	...	...	...	℥ssiv.
Aq. calcis ad ...	...	...	...	5iss.

After standing a little while there is a slight black precipitate. At first it was thought that the bismuth had been reduced, and that the precipitate would be a bismuthous oxide, which is black, but this precipitate gave the reactions for mercury. In this case no addition or alteration

can be made; the only thing is to put a "Shake the bottle" label on it.

Another case of a precipitate was in a mixture containing codein., ac. hydrobrom. dil., ae. hydrocyan. dil., aqua, and syr. limonis.

Here the precipitate is codeine hydrobromide. All that can be done is to put a "Shake" label on.

Bis. subnit.	...	...	...	...	5iij.
Mucilag.	...	...	...	...	q.s.
Aq. cinnam. ad	...	...	...	...	5iij.

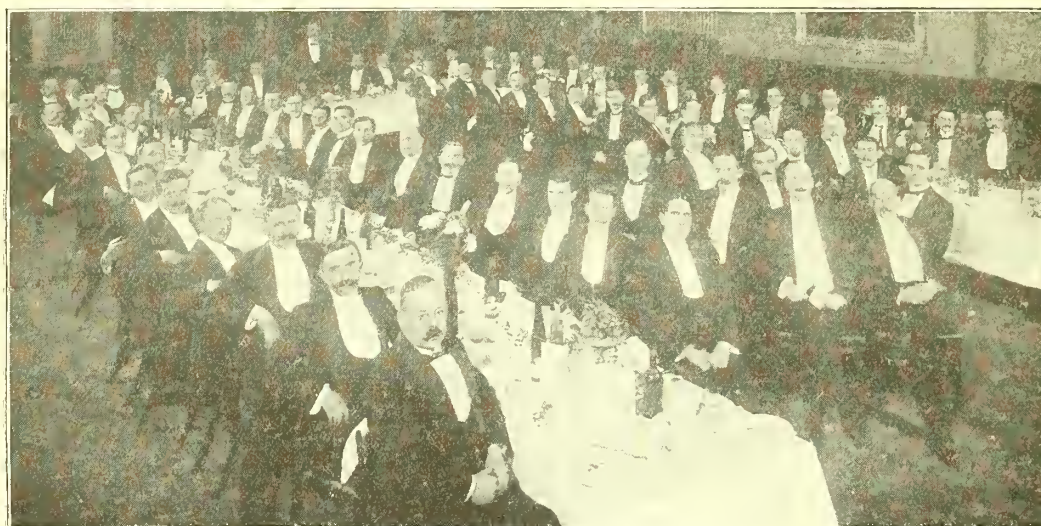
In the first case, the dispenser added six drachms of mucilage to the bismuth, and then added the water; but the bismuth went into a hard mass at the bottom of the bottle. Powdered acacia was then tried, with no better result. The best way is to make the acacia into mucilage with half the water, shake the bismuth with the other half of the water, and mix.

A mixture containing caffeine citrate and pot. iodid. discoloured through liberation of iodine. By using a corre-

given in the examination-room an enema to make, say, with olive oil, starch, etc., he will probably shake them all up together. In his own shop such a mistake is scarcely probable.

FOREIGN PRESCRIPTIONS.

The metric system is an important thing, and one which ought not to be lost sight of. A Roumanian chemist once told him that he had taken a simple prescription written in the metric system to a chemist in the East-end of London, who said he could not dispense it as he had not got the weights. Foreign prescriptions as a rule are not difficult. Russian prescriptions are fortunately written in Latin, that being the law. The chemist in Russia, in dispensing a prescription, has to keep the original, and send out a copy in full Latin. The rest of European nations use their own language. The International Congress has not got so far as an International Pharmacopœia, but good progress has been made by making the potent remedies fairly even in strength. In South American countries one gets good up-to-date pre-



MESSRS. PARKE, DAVIS & CO.'S MAJORITY DINNER PARTY.
The photo, by Fradelle & Young, Ltd., shows the Chairman standing.

sponding amount of caffeine instead of the citrate the mixture is rendered stable.

Potas. permang.	...	...	...	gr. j.
Ext. gentian.	...	...	...	q.s.
Ft. pil.				

The best way is to mix the permanganate and the gentian separately with a little lanoline and mass with a little kaolin.

With nitrate of silver pills many doctors seem to know no other excipient than breadcrumb or conf. rosæ. Breadcrumb is a bad excipient. It is much better to use kaolin ointment or lanoline and talc or kieselguhr.

Wax in pills or suppositories is looked upon by chemists almost with horror, but bearing in mind the nature of the ingredients prescribed wax is good in pills and suppositories. In the case of chloral or chlorotone suppositories wax acts very well. The wax, when expelled, is like a skeleton, the soluble ingredients having been dissolved out like the glycerin is from a stearin suppository. In pills of terpineol and benzoate of soda use wax and a trace of soap, otherwise a big pill results. Mr. Wyatt said he had been much struck with the difficulty students have with ointments in the examination-room. Unless a candidate is given very clear instructions he generally goes wrong. Nervousness is, of course, a big factor, and so are the unfamiliar surroundings. A man would not be marked down for nervousness. Examiners do not delight in plucking students, but often try to prevent the students plucking themselves. If a man is

scriptions and very go-ahead chemists, but there is no official Pharmacopœia except in Mexico. European Pharmacopœias are used. Brazil uses the French Codex, Chili the German Pharmacopœia. He had one prescription the other day written in Latin, with directions in Spanish. It had been dispensed by a Norwegian chemist, and the prescriber was a Dane. In French prescriptions, if "précipité blanc" is ordered it means calomel. Also for vaseline always use white vaseline, and for vaseline oil use a heavy oil.

Mr. Wyatt concluded with examples of foreign prescriptions.

In reply to a question regarding the advisability of adding something to suspend tincture of myrrh in a gargle, he said it would depend on whether there are present any salts that would tend to throw out the myrrh. In that case a little senega would be a useful thing to add.

Mr. Wyatt was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his practical address.

Social Gatherings.

"Extract Dinner."—The twenty-eighth annual dinner given by Messrs. Newball & Mason, Nottingham, to their employes was held on Friday evening, December 29, Mr. B. Deaville presiding. After dinner and the patriotic toasts, a lengthy programme of music, recitations, and sketches was entered upon. The sketches were "Forgiven" and "The Nigger Store-keeper," both being well played by members of the staff. The entertainment was enjoyable from beginning to end.

A Talk with Travellers.—The directors of Messrs. C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd., wholesale and export druggists and manufacturing chemists, Mile End, London, E., entertained the town and country representatives of the company at dinner in the Cannon Street Hotel during Christmas week, the heads of departments in the office, laboratory, and warehouse also being guests. Mr. T. White, chairman of the Board of directors, occupied the chair, and was supported by the other directors of the company. After dinner and the loyal toasts the meeting resolved itself into a business conference, which lasted until midnight. The proceedings were both enjoyable and profitable to all concerned therein, and they look forward to future conferences of the same nature.

"Twenty-one Years Ago" and Now.—On Monday evening, January 1, Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. celebrated the majority of their London branch by entertaining to dinner in the Criterion Restaurant the principal members of the London and Hounslow staffs, the British representatives, and a number of the foreign representatives, the company numbering seventy-five in all. Mr. F. M. Fisk, the European manager, presided. After dinner the Chairman read many telegrams and cablegrams congratulating him on the auspicious event, and thereafter led off the toasts with "The King and the President," which was received with musical honours. The toast of "The Firm" was proposed by Mr. Thomas Maben, who prefaced his remarks by quoting from the *C. & D.*, February 7, 1891, the announcement that the firm had fitted up handsome offices in Holborn Viaduct, also a subsequent interview (*C. & D.*, March 7, 1891) with Mr. Fisk, showing how modest were the beginnings of the branch which has since grown to large proportions. To this progress Mr. Maben referred in detail, and spoke in warm terms of Mr. Fisk's work as manager. The toast was enthusiastically received, and on rising to reply Mr. Fisk was cordially greeted. He read a letter from Mr. E. G. Swift, general manager of the firm, Detroit, giving greeting on behalf of the officers of the house, and expressing warm appreciation of the efforts of all who had participated in the growth of the London branch of the business, with the conviction that nowhere have they a market that gives greater promise than the territory in Mr. Fisk's charge. Tracing in plain terms the growth of the branch from its foundation at 43 Holborn Viaduct, when the staff consisted of himself, his brother, Mr. Harry Fisk, and a stenographer, Mr. Fisk recalled some of the incidents of twenty years ago, the company being much amused by his remarks regarding the typewriter and typewritten letters, which at that time were such an innovation that occasionally when doctors called they would remark about "that peculiar noise," then examined the typewriting machine with the greatest interest. He touched lightly upon the difficulties which had to be encountered. Speaking to the guests as fellow-workers with himself, he said that mutual consideration and esteem are the corner-stones upon which every successful business is built, and he knew that these are characteristics of those associated in the European branch of Parke, Davis & Co., and thanked all of them for this renewed proof of loyal confidence and attachment.

Mr. Fisk was followed by Mr. G. R. H. Clark, who gave the toast of "The Representative Staff," Mr. Robert MacAlley replying on behalf of the home representatives and Mr. Millet for the foreign. Mr. Holloway then gave "The Office Staff," Mr. Bowden replying, this being followed by "The Laboratory Staff," given by Mr. H. J. Fisk and responded to by Mr. R. C. Brown, and finally "The Subsidiary Branches" was toasted, Mr. Brier, of St. Petersburg, replying.

At this stage of the proceedings an address, engrossed on vellum and signed by every gentleman present as well as by others who did not attend, the whole being fashioned in a fine example of the bookbinder's art, was presented by Mr. Holloway to Mr. F. M. Fisk, together with a valuable diamond pin and a set of gold sleeve-links. In making the presentation, Mr. Holloway mentioned that the staff of three, which the branch comprised twenty-one years ago, has now grown to 570, and the increased business in 1911, compared with that of 1910, was greater than the whole year's turnover thirteen years ago, while it has quadrupled during the past nine years. Dr. Foster, senior provincial representative, who joined the staff in 1892, also spoke, and was followed by Mr. Harry Hickey, senior town representative, who joined about eight months after Dr. Foster. Mr. Brown, Mr. Holderness, and Mr. Patis, representing the laboratory, office, and warehouse staffs respectively, also spoke. In the course of his speech Mr. Brown mentioned that the laboratory opened three years ago at Hounslow is so congested that the ground has been cleared for an addition. The warm receptions which Mr. Fisk had received in the earlier stages of the proceedings were eclipsed by that accorded to him when he rose to acknowledge the gift. Speaking of the kind and

encouraging words which had fallen from each gentleman, he mentioned the assistance in the progress of the branch afforded by all the members of the staff and representatives, and disclaimed being aught else but a unit in the long list of the employees of the firm, but as the official representative he stated that he desired to promote their interests in common with those of the firm, and he trusted that he would continue to enjoy their confidence and support. He heartily thanked all for their mementoes of this majority.

It had been intended to alternate the speeches with songs and other music, but the musical programme became of secondary importance to the enthusiasm of the speeches, but room was found for a popular song by Mr. Stanley White, who joined the literary staff of the firm six weeks ago. "Auld Lang Syne" brought a memorable evening to a close.

The annual dance of the staff and their lady friends was held in the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, on Saturday evening, December 30, and was most successful, thanks to the energies of the committee and the M.C.s (Messrs. Clark and Hickey), with a good string band. Many of the representatives came to the dance, and enjoyed it well, after their conference work during the day.

London Drug Statistics.

The following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of December, and to the stocks on December 31:

	December		Stocks		1911	
	Landed	Delivd.	1911	1910	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes.....es. etc.	142	193	1,312	1,283	2,215	2,185
".....gouds	—	—	1,092	1,565	1,181	1,594
Anise, star.....cs.	20	—	75	30	120	75
Arrowroot.....pkgs.	150	732	2,576	4,021	10,157	11,832
Balsams.....cks. etc.	96	148	249	428	357	548
Calumba.....pkgs.	632	258	1,303	154	3,203	2,225
Camphor....."	450	817	1,909	1,183	9,571	8,790
Cardamoms....."	177	202	798	745	4,135	4,117
Cassara sagra tons	5	7	292	359	80	173
Cinchona.....pkgs.	657	769	4,016	4,498	6,733	7,101
Cochineal.....bgs.	74	81	344	308	622	535
Cubebs....."	—	17	168	291	546	606
Dragon's-blood pkgs.	8	22	125	206	210	321
Galls....."	248	267	1,938	1,079	4,123	3,206
Gums....."	—	3	4	4	22	22
Ammoniacum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alumi....."	271	17	437	379	1,142	1,070
Acacia....."	1,422	729	4,381	8,287	11,141	14,460
Asafoetida....."	5	103	669	711	1,611	1,673
Benzoin....."	92	84	296	530	1,567	1,768
Copal....."	2,305	4,132	23,837	20,887	51,018	43,117
Damar....."	337	559	4,566	5,557	9,630	10,592
Gamboge....."	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gamboge....."	—	22	137	169	282	314
Kauri.....tons net	41	39	381	337	699	652
Kino.....pkgs.	—	4	23	41	—	18
Marsh....."	—	9	20	30	37	44
Myrrh, E.I....."	57	28	408	275	491	348
Onbanum....."	—	41	638	253	1,171	825
Sandarac....."	33	76	562	825	1,323	1,543
Tragacanth....."	474	916	3,318	3,263	17,877	17,822
Ipecacuanha.....	—	1	23	101	42	127
Cartagena.....pkgs.	—	31	24	61	225	240
E.I. (Johore)....."	—	5	49	51	101	117
Matto Grosso ..	16	14	39	22	134	123
Minas....."	—	8	75	41	460	426
Jalap.....bils.	—	—	124	586	1,037	1,490
Nux vomica.....pkgs.	8	—	—	—	—	—
Oils....."	—	—	—	—	—	—
"Anise, star.....cs.	20	13	27	74	134	142
"Cassia....."	13	—	37	13	73	51
"Castor.....pkgs.	144	70	211	139	1,127	1,058
"Coconut.....tons	105	36	284	401	1,142	1,206
"Olive.....pkgs.	273	242	1,550	1,434	3,279	3,147
"Palm.....tons	—	—	33	—	102	69
Quinine.....lb.	12,859	2,989	232,365	230,461	86,497	94,525
Rhubarb.....cs.	45	73	236	497	414	613
Sarsaparilla.....bils.	31	56	224	442	704	922
Senna.....pkgs.	669	416	2,328	2,960	5,014	5,635
Shellac.....cs.	5,259	3,796	103,458	98,337	46,364	44,212
Turmeric.....tons	17	48	340	305	647	470
Wax....."	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bees'.....pkgs.	1,147	1,505	1,818	2,005	8,012	7,832
Vegetable ..	82	45	547	407	1,175	1,082

* Stocks of essential oils at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., January 4.

AS is usual in the first week of the New Year, business has been on restricted lines, and the interval has been quite uneventful. With the resumption of the drug-auctions next week more normal conditions will prevail. The only change of note has been the erratic market in quicksilver, which was reduced 7s. 6d. on Tuesday, but this stimulating the demand, the Baron advanced his price 5s. on Wednesday. Among fine chemicals, there are practically no changes of consequence. The scale of scheduled prices for bismuth preparations has been re-cast and the "re-sale" clause withdrawn. Thymol is firmer in some quarters, but others continue unchanged. The chief event in drugs is the official confirmation of the new buchu tax; stocks of ergot are accumulating somewhat, and prices are nominal. Ipecacuanha is steady and in retail demand. English-made castor oil is cheaper, and clove oil has also been reduced. Lemon oil is easier on spot owing to the proximity of new crop arrivals. Opium continues firm, with an absence of news on account of native holidays. The following table shows the chief alterations of the week:

Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cocoa butter Copper sulphate Linseed Thymol	Acetanilide Castor oil (Hull) Ergot Lemon oil (spot) Veratrin	Clove oil Quicksilver (first hands)

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, January 4.—Business in drugs is quiet. Opium is firm at \$8.50 per lb. for druggists'. Jalap is lower at 26c. Cascara sagrada is steady at 9c. Peppermint oil in tins is dull at \$2.85. Buchu is hardening at 95c. for round leaves. Balsam tolu is easy at 52c., as is guarana at \$1.65 per lb.

London Markets.

ACETANILIDE is about ½d. per lb. easier, crystals offering at 10d. per lb. in 1-cwt. lots and 9¾d. in 5-cwt. lots.

ALOES.—Between the auctions sales of 50 kegs Socotrine of good quality have been made to the home trade.

ANISEED is unchanged at 29s. per cwt. for Russian and 32s. 6d. to 34s. for Spanish.

ARROWROOT.—Quiet at auction. Ten half barrels of Bermuda were bought in at 1s. 6d. and 20 cases Natal at 10d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—A private advice from New York reports fair arrivals there, but owing to the extreme prices asked business is difficult; in London 2s. 6d. net is quoted for small tins and 2s. 4½d. net for large tins.

BENZOLIN.—The arrivals comprise 70 cases Sumatra, 25 Palembang, and three cases Siam.

BISMUTH SALTS.—The five English makers who constitute the Convention have issued a circular dated January 1, stating that in consequence of the representations made to them by many prominent members of the wholesale drug-trade regarding the friction caused by

the constant infringement of the "resale clause" in the case of bismuth salts, they have regretfully decided to discontinue the same from January 1, 1912. All current contracts are declared to be free from any restrictions as to resale from this date. The January price-lists as issued by the makers show a recasting of the scheduled prices of preparations, whereby the previous list price and 28 lb. assorted lots have been cancelled. The previous 56-lb. lots is now transferred to the list price column, and the 112-lb. and 224-lb. assorted lots remain as hitherto and at unaltered prices. The list prices are now as follows: carbonate, 8s. 9½d.; subnitrate, 7s. 8d.; levig., 8s. 2d.; benzoate, 10s. 4d.; citrate, 8s. 4½d.; nitrate cryst., 5s. 8d.; oxide B.P., 10s. 8d.; salicylate, 7s. 4d.; physio. pure, 8s. 10½d.; subchlor., 9s. 1½d.; tannate, 7s. 7d.; and subgallate, 6s., all per lb. net cash, with the usual reduction on 1-cwt. and 2-cwt. lots.

BUCHU.—The *Kildonan Castle* has brought 22 packages from Cape Town, of which 20 are in transit for New York. New crop is offering for February shipment at about 3s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f., and business has been done; but in view of the increased tax it is doubtful if this can be repeated. Sellers on the spot quote 3s. 9d. to 4s. for round; longs are nominal at from 1s. 8d. to 2s., and ovals are not obtainable below 1s. 10d.

CANARY-SEED is steady at 46s. per quarter for Turkish and ordinary Morocco and 48s. for good.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Very little Bombay description has lately appeared on the native or London markets. In some quarters this is regarded as due to the Indian Government endeavouring to restrict production.

CAPSICUMS.—At auction 18 bags Nyasaland were offered, and sold at 48s. to 49s. 6d. for bold bright red off stalk. 41s. for fair, and 40s. for mixed yellowish; 20 bags of Mombasa sold at 24s. 6d. for fair medium stalky.

CARAWAY-SEED has been sold at 26s. to 26s. 6d. per cwt. for fair Dutch.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The *Catalina* has brought 873 bags via Puerto Mexico; on the spot, business is reported at 42s. 6d. per cwt.

CASTOR OIL.—Hull make of first pressing for prompt delivery is 10s. per ton easier at 28l. 10s., January-June delivery being unchanged at 28l. 5s. in barrels, delivered free on wharf London; pharmaceutical quality is 50s. extra. Belgium first pressing is 29l. for prompt, ex wharf London.

CHILLIES.—Steady at auction; 59 bags Nyasaland sold at from 43s. to 44s. for fair red, 41s. 6d. for red and yellowish, and 39s. 6d. to 40s. for dark.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on January 18 will consist of 12,109 packages, comprising 10,401 packages Ledgeriana and hybrid, 597 cases and 1,111 bales Succirubra, the total weight being about 1,079,067 kilos. The first-hand stock of bark at Amsterdam (including the above offerings) amounted to 4,199 packages Government and 24,260 packages private bark. The shipments of bark from Java to Europe during December amounted to 1,188,000 Amst. lb., against 1,357,000 Amst. lb. in 1910. The total shipments for the year 1911 now amount to 16,616,000 Amst. lb., against 18,043,000 Amst. lb. in 1910, 15,736,000 Amst. lb. in 1909, and 15,677,000 Amst. lb. in 1908.

CINNAMON.—At auction 25 cases of Tellicherry sold without reserve at higher rates, including fair firsts at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., and seconds at 1s. Of 143 bags chips, 43 sold without reserve at from 1½d. to 2d. for damaged.

CLOVE OIL.—The English distillers announce a reduction to 3s. 8d. per lb., and quantity at 3s. 6d.

CLOVES.—At auction 59 bags of Seychelles offered and 13 sold at 5½d. for rather dark and 5d. for ordinary perished. Good dry picked were bought in, a bid of 7d. being refused. Five cases of Penang were bought in at 11d. for fair. Privately the market for Zanzibar is quiet, spot offering at 5½d., with sellers of arrival near positions at 4½d., and January-March shipment at 4½d. c.i.f. d.w.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the Amsterdam auction on January 18, 1,189 packages Java coca-leaves will be offered.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At the Amsterdam auction 96 tons of Van Houten's sold at 74.25c., against 73.13c. on the previous sale; 80 tons of Van Houten's B sold at 71.75c., and 26 tons other brands at from 71.75c. to 72c.

COD-LIVER OIL is unaltered, with good brands offering at from 105s. to 106s. per barrel c.i.f. terms, and on the spot 104s. to 105s. will buy, the latter finest Lofoten quality.

COPPER-SULPHATE.—Prompt delivery is 5s. per ton firmer at 23l. 5s. for ordinary Liverpool brands, but forward delivery is unchanged at 23l. 10s. for March-April and 23l. for May.

CORIANDER-SEED is slow of sale at 15s. per cwt. for fair Morocco and 13s. 6d. c.i.f. terms for shipment.

CUMIN-SEED has been sold at 22s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco and 31s. 6d. for retail lots of Malta.

DILL-SEED is scarce, and the nominal value is about 18s. 6d. per cwt.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Ten cases seedy Singapore lump have arrived; stock of reboiled lump is now very small, the bulk having been cleared.

ERGOT.—The arrivals comprise 16 packages from the Continent. In the absence of business prices are somewhat nominal at 4s. 6d. for Russian on the spot.

ETHERS (PURE).—As already advised, the makers advanced their prices by 1d. per lb. from January 1, and now quote B. P. s.g. .735 at 6s. 6d., .720 at 7s. 3d., and .750 at 6s. 3d. per lb., 12 Winchesters being 1d. per lb. less. *Acetic Ether* has also been advanced 1d. per lb. to 3s. 11d.

FENNEL-SEED is worth 21s. per cwt. for East Indian and 27s. for fine clean Turkish.

FENUGREEK-SEED is steady at 10s. per cwt. for Morocco.

GAMBOGE.—Between the auctions a fair business has been done, estimated at from 30 to 35 cases; about two tons Siam pipe have arrived.

GINGER.—At auction 290 bags wormy washed rough Cochín were offered, and 89 sold at 42s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—A small business has been done at 9s. 2d. per lb. for Matto Grosso. The arrivals comprise twelve packages Minas, eight of Matto Grosso, and eight cases (about 18 cwt.) of Cartagena.

LEMON-JUICE.—English pressed remains very dear at 1s. 6d. per gallon for delivery as made during the next two months.

LEMON OIL.—The fact that several shipments of new crop oil will be available on the London market shortly gives an easier tone to the spot market, and for good brands there are sellers at 5s. 6d. per lb. spot; to arrive shippers ask the advanced rate of 5s. 3d. c.i.f., and others ask 5s.

An advice from Palermo dated December 30 states that the completion of a few early deliveries of new crop, which were due at the end of the month, has been effected with some difficulty, owing to the fact that pressings have been scarce, and the few parcels offered helped to maintain the stringent position. Further, more interest has been shown by foreign buyers for new crop, and some consumers decided to cover their requirements for next year. In some instances the quantities contracted for have been reduced owing to the difficult market. For shipment new crop is quoted at 5s. 2d. per lb. c.i.f. London.

LINSEED has recovered the recent decline owing to damage by rain of the Argentine crop. Good quality Dutch and Morocco is now quoted 67s. 6d. to 70s. per quarter.

LOOFAHS.—The British Acting Vice-Consul at Yokohama reports under date November 15 that the loofah crop of Japan in 1911 amounted to about 20,000,000 pieces, as compared with an estimated total for 1910 of 13,000,000 pieces. A stock of 2,000,000 pieces remains over from the previous year. Owing partly to increased production and partly to the bad quality of the loofahs grown, the prices, so far, are considerably lower than those paid in 1910. The market cannot yet be regarded as being in anything like a settled condition. The marked increase over the previous year's crop appears to be due to a considerable extension of cultivation, which was in turn caused by the satisfactory results obtained during the two previous years. The

inferior quality of the crop is partly accounted for by the failure of the plants in Inshu, which is the main centre of production. Owing to wind and rain, only some 2,000,000 pieces out of 10,000,000 pieces produced in this district are of use.

MACE.—At auction 39 packages West Indian sold at steady rates, including fine bold pale at 2s. 8d., ordinary to fair 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d., and broken 1s. 11d. to 2s. 1d. Of 22 cases Java, 11 cases sold at 2s. 4d. for pale reddish curly and 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. for heavy dark red.

MENTHOL is without quotable change, sellers of Suzuki asking 25s. to 26s., and Kobayashi 27s. 6d. on spot. Five cases have arrived *via* Havre.

MILK-SUGAR has a somewhat firmer feeling on the spot, which is regarded as temporary only; 90s. per cwt. is quoted for good B.P. powdered.

OPIMUM.—The markets both at home and abroad have been suspended this week—the latter on account of native holidays, consequently there have been no offers. Turkey druggists' on the spot is worth from 28s. 6d. to 29s., and for Persian for forward shipment business was done prior to the holidays at 27s. to 27s. 6d. per lb.

Writing on December 22 our Smyrna correspondent reports that the sales during the week amount only to seven cases at from 30s. to 32s. as to quality. Sellers firmly maintain the position, and show no sign of wishing to realise at these high figures. The weather since the beginning of the month has been favourable for sowing, and owing to the high values the drug has attained a large acreage has been sown with poppy seed. It remains to be seen whether the young weak plants will resist the severe frosty weather which generally sets in during January and February. The arrivals amount to 1,046 cases, against 4,189 at same date last year.

The "North China Daily News" of December 7 reports the remarkable fact that, while business in every other commodity is at a standstill, opium has received considerable attention lately. Previous to the revolution there was a boom in prices, which reached t/s 4000 per chest, and with the progress of the unrest prices fell to t/s 3000. For a considerable time there was no business, buyers being as scarce as sellers at the prices ruling. But a flip seem to have been given to the trade about the time when Kuangtung and Yunnan joined the revolutionary movement and proclaimed their independence. These two provinces, with Szechuan, were the largest consumers of opium in the empire, and the suppression of poppy cultivation and opium-smoking was keenly resented by a good number of the inhabitants. As soon as the authority of the Imperial Government was thrown overboard, there was evidently a reaction among those addicted to opium. Even before the revolution, and in spite of the stringent rules, there is reason to believe that opium houses continued to flourish secretly for some time. Now it is said that they have begun to carry on their trade publicly in Canton and in other places, the bad example once set being quickly followed. The rule of Peking has been repudiated and opium is obtainable. Owing to the suppression of poppy cultivation enough local opium is not available, and so the foreign opium is very badly wanted. Prices have again moved up, latest sales having taken place at t/s 3,500 per chest, and clearances in Hong Kong and Shanghai are satisfactory from the trade point of view.

ORANGE OIL.—An advice from Palermo of December 30 reports a neglected and unaltered market, shippers quoting from 7s. 8½d. per lb. for *sweet* and 8s. c.i.f. London for *bitter*.

PEPPER.—In auction 36 bags grey Alleppy were bought in at 5½d. Privately business has been done in Singapore for January-March shipment at 5½d., and in Lampong at 5½d. for January-March shipment. On the spot sellers of fair Singapore quote 5½d. Of *white* pepper at auction 85 bags of fair Penang were bought in at 7½d. Privately fair Singapore is offered at 7½d., and January-March shipment at 7½d. c.i.f. d.w.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—American has met with very little demand for several weeks past, which fact has brought out cheap sellers; for finest brands of tin oil 12s. 6d. is still quoted; H.G.H. is quoted at 15s. 6d., but rather less would lead to business.

PIMENTO was not offered at auction. Privately fair is quoted at 2½d. per lb.

QUICKSILVER has been erratic. On Tuesday the Baron reduced his price by 7s. 6d. per bottle to 7l. 15s. This appears to have stimulated the demand so much that on

the following day an advance of 5s. was announced, making the official quotation 87., second-hands closing sellers at 77. 18s. 6d. No change has been made in mercurials.

QUININE.—Market has barely re-opened, prices being steady at $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. for German from makers, $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. from second-hands, 7d. for Amsterdam, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. for Java.

The landings during December were 206,384 oz. and the deliveries 47,984 oz., making the stock on December 31, 3,557,840 oz., against 3,687,376 oz. in 1910.

At the Amsterdam auction held on December 29 1,417½ kilos. (50,000 oz.) Ed. 11. offered and sold at the average price of $\text{fl.}10.91\frac{1}{2}$ per kilo., against $\text{fl.}10.99\frac{1}{2}$ at the previous auction. The next auction will be held on January 19, when a similar quantity will be put up.

SARSAPARILLA.—There have been very few arrivals recently—only two bales of grey Jamaica having come to hand, also four bales Native and ten of Mexican.

SHELLAC is quiet with small sales on the spot on a basis of 63s. for fair T.N. Orange. For arrival January-February and February-March shipments are quoted 64s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. for T.N. Futures are easier, the sales including March at 63s. and buyers of January delivery at 62s.

TURPENTINE has been a quiet market, and practically unaltered, American on the spot closing at 37s. 6d. and February-April delivery at 37s. 9d. per cwt.

VERATRINE is offering at a reduction of 2d. per oz., the pure alkaloid offering at 3s. 9d., and the sulphate at 4s. 1d. per oz. net.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CITRIC ACID.—As is usual at this period, the demand is dull, with second-hands less active with their offers. This is partly due to the report that the Italian Government does not intend to raise the price of raw materials.

ORRIS.—The insufficiency of the yield of the Italian crops has led to consumers covering their needs for a considerable period, as a result of which a further rise recently took place. Florentine root costs m.125 and Verona m.90 per 100 kilos. Mogador is practically non-existent, and the small quantities received are 25 per cent. higher.

QUILLAI.—The numerous offers from Chili prove more and more the existence of large stocks there which are being kept in reserve. The low prices which have already been reached are quite out of relation to the quotations for "cut" bark, and a decline in the latter may be expected to take place shortly.

LACTIC ACID.—There is considerably more demand, and makers have for some months past been so occupied that inquiries for prompt goods in sufficient quantities are not always receiving consideration. Pure is quoted at from m.450 to m.500 per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium.—Offers are not abundant, but sufficient to meet the demand, and dealers have been able to maintain their prices at from m.375 to m.400 per 100 kilos. There is certainly no considerable interest felt for the product, but the total output is not such as to influence prices in a downward direction at a later date.

Cottonseed Oil.

According to an official report, the Southern Cotton Oil Co. of Great Britain, which opened new works in Liverpool last year, are to erect extensive buildings at Trafford Park, on the Manchester Ship Canal. It is intended by the company to "scrap" the Liverpool works and concentrate all their business at Trafford Park. The parent company have 530 cottonseed-oil works in America. Works are also to be erected on the Ship Canal for the Brothers Chemical Co., of Rawtenstall, in order to secure better railway and shipping facilities.

Carriage in the United Kingdom.

As some confusion may exist as to the payment of carriage on fine chemicals and the like in the United Kingdom, a circular has been issued, signed by seven of the leading English manufacturing chemists, giving the following revised arrangements: Carriers' booking-fees are not paid; carriage is not paid on dangerous goods, or on bromides, acid, hydrobrom., and ol. terebinth.; nor is carriage paid on any article of an invoice-value of less than 40s. per cwt. For a few exceptions, where special conditions apply, such as iodides, etc., see price-lists. Carriage is paid to buyers' domicile—route at makers' option—on bismuth preparations, citrates, and ferri et quin. cit., if in assorted lots of 5l. net invoice-value and upwards. Carriage is paid on all other goods in makers' price-lists in assorted lots of 10l. net invoice-value and upwards.

Buchu Collectors' Tax.

The information which we published last week (index folio 962), that the tax on the collection of buchu on Crown lands in South Africa had been advanced from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per lb., has since proved correct. The following is a copy of the official Order published in the "Pretoria Gazette":

No. 2002.

December 2, 1911.

WESTERN FOREST CONSERVANCY: INCREASED TARIFF FOR COLLECTION OF BUCHU FROM FOREST RESERVES.

It is hereby notified for general information that on and after January 1, 1912, the tariff for the collection of buchu from forest reserves in the Western Forest Conservancy (as defined by Government Notice No. 380 of 1910) will be raised from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

(Government Notice No. 1125 of December 12, 1910, is accordingly cancelled.)

It is hereby further notified that the season for collecting buchu in the Western Forest Conservancy will be from February 1 to March 31, inclusive, in each year.

J. STORR LISTER,

Acting Chief Conservator of Forests.

Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Pretoria.

[We are indebted to Messrs. Herbert Hymans & Co., 13-14 Trinity Square, London, E.C., for a copy of the above Ordinance, which they have received by this mail from their Cape Town house. ED.]

Persian Opium.

A British consular report on the trade of Bushire for 1910-11 states that the total exports of opium decreased from 86 to 37 tons. This represents a great loss to Persian trade, as in former years the exports were: 1907-8, 45 tons to China, 147 tons to U.K.; 1908-9, 96 tons to China, 66 tons to U.K.; and 1909-10, 53 tons to China and 30 tons to U.K. Although prices in Hong-Kong showed enormous advances, Persian exporters benefited little, as the importation of Persian opium into China remained practically in the hands of one or two Hong-Kong firms, and a large number of chests from Bushire were thus left lying unsold at the end of the year. The subsequent announcement that the introduction of both Persian and Turkish opium would be altogether prohibited from the beginning of 1912 will have a still more damaging effect. Reshipments from Hong-Kong to London have already taken place (the report states), and the only other apparent course of Persians owning opium there is to sell for the Formosa market, though one or two recent shipments from Bushire to Singapore direct show that a market may be established there. The production of Persian opium was estimated formerly at about 6,000 chests per annum, but by 1907-8 the average was some 4,000 chests, and the London market is not likely to take as much as 1,500 chests (the largest export in recent years from Bushire was 3,000 cwt.). The loss to Persian revenue as the result of total prohibition in China is put down at over 12,000l. annually, and the annual average loss to Persian commerce at 100,000l. to 150,000l. The season 1911-12 will, however, be particularly unfortunate for Persia, as the exceptionally severe cold of the past winter has ruined the opium crops, more particularly near Isfahan and Yazd, besides rapine, plunder, and other disturbances. For chests of 140 lb. prices at Isfahan started in June-July 1910 at 450 tomans (about 32l.), rose from August to December to 500 and 520 tomans (93l. to 96l.), from which point they dropped a little. Actual buying prices then approximated 8s. 10d. per lb. for crude opium and 13s. 5d. per lb. for prepared opium, plus expense of preparation. Shiraz opium prices were apparently lower from August 1910 to February 1911, but purchases were being made at 520 tomans (96l.) in March 1911. Since then, owing to unfavourable crop reports, opium has advanced to 800 and 700 tomans in Shiraz and Isfahan (150l. to 130l.). It is to be feared that the credit and financial standing of several Persian opium traders in the south will shrink considerably in the future, as losses made in other lines were usually handsomely retrieved in opium.

Cyprian Essential Oils.

In the annual report on the trade of Cyprus for 1910-11 it is stated that the distillation of essential oils is an important item in the work of the Agricultural Department, though the market is somewhat limited and inelastic. The distillation of origanum oil has now been taken over entirely by private enterprise, and the yield in 1910 was larger than that of any previous year, amounting to 2,842 lb., as against 1,550 in 1909. Mr. Jakovides, of Ktima, has been occupied with the scientific preparation of various essential oils, and obtained the first prize at the Limassol Agricultural and Industrial Show for his collection.

MR. W. RYMAN, of Messrs. Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., informs us that he is not retiring from the road, as rumoured.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

The B.P. and Chloroform.

SIR,—Having had long and intimate connection with the manufacture of chloroform from methylated spirit and acetone, as well as from ethylic alcohol, we were naturally much interested in the discussion which recently took place at the Section of Anæsthetics of the Royal Society of Medicine upon this subject. The discussion brought out a decided advance and unanimity of opinion in recognising, what we have long upheld, that chloroform being a definite chemical substance, a pure product, quite irrespective of source, can be nothing but pure chloroform. There are abundant means of determining the purity of the article, but none so far as we know which will enable the source from which it has been obtained to be determined. Your remarks in your special article of last week on this subject are entirely to the point. We think, however, that a material point has been overlooked. The B.P. of 1898 differs from its predecessors in that no detailed process for the manufacture of chloroform is given. On the other hand, the characters and tests by which its freedom from impurity can be determined were extended and increased in number and in stringency. We venture to submit that making chloroform, manufactured from particular sources, "official" in the forthcoming Pharmacopœia would be a retrograde step and a needless restriction of the present liberty as regards the sources of preparation, since the purity of chloroform can be so thoroughly safeguarded by its characters and reactions with chemical tests. Yours truly,

Edinburgh, January 3. J. F. MACFARLAN & Co.

Bevan v. Phillips and Another.

SIR,—In your issue of December 23, on page 33, under the heading, "Summary of this Issue," you state:

"An application for an interim injunction to restrain the use by the Charles H. Phillips Co. of a public analyst's certificate was refused by Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady."

This is incorrect. If you will refer to your own report of the case on page 40 of the same issue you will see there stated what is the fact—viz., that the defendants gave an undertaking to withdraw the advertisement until the trial of the action. In these circumstances it was unnecessary for his Lordship to grant an interim injunction. This is quite a customary procedure in the courts, and in effect restrains the publication of the words complained of without prejudice to the rights of each party on the trial of the action. Your report of the motion as it appears on page 40 is quite a fair one, and we are sure that when the matter is called to your attention you will see that the note on the earlier page of your issue, to which we have referred, is misleading. We act for Mr. Edward Bevan, the public analyst referred to.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES ANDERSON & Co.

4 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W., December 29.

The Poisonous Species of *Rhus* and their Antidotes.

SIR,—Referring to the note on the poisonous properties of *Rhus Toxicodendron* at p. 69 of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for December 30 last, and the statement that the application of a 2 to 4 per cent. solution of permanganate of potassium gave almost instant relief, I may perhaps draw attention to another note of a similar nature from an American correspondent in the "Gardeners'

Chronicle" for December 9, p. 410. The writer says: "Very few people seem to be injured by it when the plant is dormant, though this cannot be said to be the case always.

For myself, I am very susceptible at all times of the poison of *Rhus* and of *Primula obconica*. Last summer, when the *rhus* was just budding forth with blood-red shoots, four men were employed to root it up, for unless given something to climb upon it becomes a pestiferous ground weed. These men were seemingly immune until hot weather set in, and when perspiration was free all were badly affected. The face swells to such an extent

that the sufferer can scarcely see, and other parts of the body are also affected. Our physician recommended as a remedy tincture of *Sanguinaria canadensis* sopped on with a soft cloth. Each man was cured in four days by the use of this simple remedy. The blood root grows plentifully with the *rhus* in similar situations, and a pint of the tincture is ample to effect a cure of a serious case. Physicians also recommend the fluid extract of *Grindelia robusta* for cases of poisoning, both from *Rhus Toxicodendron* and *R. venenata*, the latter being the worse of the two species." As there has been much confusion between the true poison vine or poison ivy, as it is sometimes called, and cultivated species of *Ampelopsis*, or *Vitis*, the figure may assist in identifying the real culprit. Yours faithfully,

Lymstone, Devon.

JOHN R. JACKSON.



POISON VINE (*Rhus Toxicodendron*).

National Insurance Act: Doctors and Dispensing.

SIR,—When the question of dispensing was first raised in the division of the British Medical Association to which I belong, we were asked to send a motion to headquarters, asking them to take action to have the right of dispensing restored. I opposed this, chiefly on the grounds that the matter was too trivial, in the face of other glaring iniquities in the measure, and that it was inconsistent and undignified to raise such a question when so many of us had always been saying that we would rather be without dispensing. My view was taken by the majority of the meeting. Since that time, however, a very strong feeling has sprung up throughout the country that the ban on dispensing is an unwarrantable interference with the liberty of the subject. With this feeling I confess I am sympathetic. Points of detail have been raised at various meetings at which I have been present—for example, the use of a prescription given to an insured person for his relatives and friends (not insured persons), who happen to have the same symptoms, which would be bad for the public health and (incidentally) for the medical pocket. This point, indeed, was raised by a medical man who had been a pharmacist, and I pointed out that the remedy would be for all prescriptions to be marked "Not to be repeated." If any man were found to habitually disregard the best traditions of pharmacy in this matter, he could be dealt with by the local committee of pharmacists after a complaint had been made to the committee by any aggrieved doctor. As an

honorary official of the British Medical Association, I have had a good opportunity of gauging the feeling of the profession over this measure, and I have no hesitation in saying that never was such unanimity as there has been against it, and chiefly because, broadly, there is too much interference with the free and untrammelled relations which have always existed between a medical man and his patients. I may add that the case for the pharmacist is very much weakened by the flagrant and inexcusable way in which treatment is undertaken by men who are on the Register of Chemists and Druggists. It is not the mild counter-prescribing which was familiar and harmless in my pharmaceutical days, but actually extends to the visiting of cases. This kind of thing naturally creates a great deal of irritation among medical men, and does not incline them to lend too friendly an ear to the justice of the genuine pharmacist's case. There is one point that strikes me from the pharmacist's point of view. When it will cost a man nothing to get a prescription from his doctor and no more to have it dispensed, he is not likely to waste his shillings on the chemist's proprietaries, quinine-and-iron tonic, tic-mixture, etc. This will mean a very great loss of income to the pharmacist.

Yours faithfully,

MEDICO-PHARMACEUTICUS. (20/33.)

Common Sense.

SIR,—I hope pharmacists' assistants and branch managers will join together in thanking Mr. Churchill for the benefit he has conferred on them in giving them a weekly half-holiday. I see Xrayser II. is very anxious to know what is to happen when the branch manager is away. What happens at night and what happens when a doctor is away a few miles attending another case? I suppose Xrayser II. because an accident happened on a railway a few miles from a village would have a doctor, chemist, and a few nurses stationed in the same place in case it occurred again. I am sure Mr. Churchill's Shops Act will be a step in the right direction to help chemists in general. The average chemist goes to his shop in the morning, and he is at it till late at night, with the result that he enjoys no social life at all, and hardly sees across his doorstep. The manager, assistant, and apprentices are there till nine and ten at night, and may have one night off a week from about six o'clock, and alternate Sundays, with nearly five hours' work the day they are on. Chemists then wonder why they cannot get apprentices. The only apprentice a chemist gets, if he manages to get one at all, is one who has his "Prelim." still to pass. So that when he goes home at night he has a lot of studying to do, with the result that he has no time for recreation either of body or of mind. Qualified men are surprised that under the Insurance Act the unqualified get a look in. The only wonder to me is that there are not more unqualified. I only hope that under the two Acts we shall be able to get uniform prices and reasonable hours, and it will be to the advantage of everyone in the craft.

Faithfully yours,

ASSISTANT PHARMACEUTICUS. (91/31.)

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Appreciations.

I enjoy reading the *C. & D.*, it is such a businesslike journal.—*F. E. C.* (84/33).

The new "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is a brilliant work and earned a quarter of its cost (I won't say value) the first day I had it.—*W. F. M.* (20/35).

I should not like to miss the *C. & D.* My only regret is I did not take same before. I look forward to its arrival at the week-end.—*G. F. G.* (87/17).

We have many helps in our business which come and go, but the *C. & D.* is a help which we cannot do without, and which, like the proverbial stream, "goes on for ever," and gets fuller and stronger the longer it goes.—*A. H. C.* (84/17).

I am very pleased to enclose my subscription to the Chemists' Prayer-book (*C. & D.*) and Bible (*Diary*). I fancy

our hope of redemption from the slump into which our dignified (and here I do not apologise to the "Watch Dog") calling has fallen would be very much lessened if it were not for the efforts of your valuable and valued paper.—*F. B. P.* (84/22).

A correspondent (24/45), in submitting several queries, writes: "The fact that I am possessed of several of the *C. & D.* books leaves me very little excuse for asking for advice. Among the number are 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,' 'The Art of Dispensing,' 'Diseases and Remedies,' and the 'Chemist Optician,' and it would be difficult to exaggerate the value they have been to me."

Milk-powder.

I notice in a reply to one of your correspondents your remarks as to the uses of dried milk. This article has a very great future before it. Besides the uses named by you, the confectionery trade have taken to it very keenly, as it can be used in all confectionery requiring milk, and that without reducing it to the liquid condition. Dried egg, too, is largely in use in this way. The great advantage is there is no waste, as exactly the amount required can be used, which is not the case with fresh milk or eggs. I know many wholesale houses who do a big business in this way. Why should not chemists participate in the business?—*Wm. Bousfield*.

Benzolated Amylic Alcohol.

This should not leave any residue when evaporated on a water-bath in an evaporating-dish. It is, however, liable to contain resin-like bodies the presence of which is not desirable when it is used for the assay of cinchona-preparations, and especially so of the tincture. It is not always necessary to remove the alcohol from this, but if impure benzolated amylic alcohol be used, when this is washed with water to remove the alkali it will be found on acidifying this liquid with diluted hydrochloric acid that a turbidity appears which makes it impossible to apply the alkaloidal test in order to show whether any alkaloid is being removed by the washing of the benzolated amylic-alcohol alkaloidal solution which is always necessary. The turbidity is due to the precipitation of the resinous bodies which have been dissolved by the alkali used with the tincture, and their subsequent liberation and precipitation on the addition of acid. Warming the turbid liquid clarifies it a little, but on cooling it becomes *in statu quo* and requires to be passed through a duplex or triplex filter-paper to ensure a condition convenient for the test. It is the writer's opinion, based on experiment, that the more greasy residue there is present in benzolated amylic alcohol, the less is its solvent action upon the liberated cinchona alkaloids; hence the benzolated amylic alcohol cannot wisely be used over and over again unless it be first re-distilled.—*Abel Scholar*.

Assistants—Then and Now.

"Xrayser II.'s" comments on modern salaries, etc., induced me to look up some notes left by my father as to what he received in his assistant days. As an apprentice (in 1845) he began work at 7 A.M. He was nominally free on Sundays, but being expected (practically compelled) to attend morning and evening Church service, had only this one afternoon to himself all the week through. He did not receive a penny of salary during the five years thus "served," and when he was "out of his time" was glad to get a situation at 15*l.* a year indoors. As a matter of fact, he never received more than 30*l.* a year as an assistant. Hours in London were from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. (11 P.M. Saturdays), Sunday duty from 8 to 10 A.M. and from 6 to 9 P.M.; no hours off all the week through: "one continual grind from 9 P.M. one Sunday till 10 A.M. the next Sabbath." Before he obtained his 30*l.* a year situation he had spent three weeks in daily calls on wholesale City houses. My father adds: "The rule was then (this was in 1849-50) to call before noon or 1 P.M. We used to be told that in those days competent assistants would serve a year or more in the classical houses for a nominal salary—often for nothing at all—merely for the sake of the experience. Possibly some did so, but I and the majority of assistants could not afford it." In the 'sixties he was running a decent-class business of his own in St. John's Wood, and usually had an assistant of some kind. "I could," he wrote, "always obtain a young man of perhaps four or five years' experience for 20*l.* to 25*l.* indoors. At one time I used to answer the advertisements of young provincials just out of their apprenticeship and wanting to come up to London. I could frequently obtain their services for board and lodging only, while they looked out for something more satisfactory, and it was often several weeks before they were suited. Of course, they were all unqualified men, but qualification did not then exist."—*Anglo-Parisian*.

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

Calcium Lactate Mixture.

F. D. S. (40/16) asks us to explain why there should be effervescence with the following mixture:

Calcii lactatis	...	...	gr. x.
Tr. ferri perchlor.	...	...	℥viii.
Aq. chlorof. ad	...	...	℥ss.

Mitte 3vj.

[There is no effervescence in compounding this mixture if the calcium lactate be pure. Effervescence occurs with the use of calcium lactate containing carbonate. Calcium lactate of commerce has very commonly contained a considerable proportion of carbonate or phosphate. Within the last two years the lactate has been in increasing demand for pharmaceutical purposes, and it can now be bought fairly pure. In a case such as this, however, the simplest way is to make it extemporaneously. For the 6 oz. use 40 grains of calcium carbonate and a sufficiency (100 minims or so) of lactic acid to neutralise. Mix the acid with 5 oz. of water, and stir in the carbonate. Reaction may be accelerated and CO₂ dissipated by a little heat. Filter the solution, add the tincture of perchloride of iron, 7 minims of chloroform, and water to 6 oz.]

A Price Question.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will, through the *C. & D.*, say what you think a reasonable price for the following prescription would be, considering the present price of hydrastis:

Ext. hydrastis can.	...	...	5vj.
Ext. ergotæ liq.	...	...	5x.
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	℥ss.
Aq. ad	...	...	℥ss.—M.

℥ss. t.i.d.s.

Faithfully yours,

CHARLES T. NELSON.

[It will hardly pay the chemist to dispense this at less than 5s. We should be glad to receive postcard opinions from subscribers.]

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty.

Rail. Gent. (25/8).—The conditions under which retail chemists and druggists may sell not more than 8 oz. of rectified spirit at a time to medical and scientific gentleman are stated in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 453.

Canuck (14/65) employs two boys on Saturdays and occasional evenings. Is it necessary to insure these under the Employers' Liability Act? [The employer is liable under the Act for injuries which the boys may suffer in the course of the employment through negligence on the part of the employer. Insurance is optional.]

Syphon (24/18).—Place all the facts before the manufacturers for their consideration. The statements which you make involve an allegation of breach of contract which can only be determined by hearing both sides. If part of the goods do not fulfil the guarantee, the makers must replace them at their own expense and without extra cost to you.

Paradia (13/33) had some chairs sent by rail at the railway company's risk, and they were delivered damaged. He has claimed on the company for repair and depreciation in value. The company are willing to pay repair only, but not depreciation in value. What is his position? [The railway company are liable for depreciation in value of the chairs in addition to the cost of repairs.]

Hamba (22/67).—The card for the medicinal preparation which has a registered name makes the preparation liable because of the words "Stop that cough! Relief at last!" and "Prevents coughs, colds, sore throat, influenza, and chest-troubles." Moreover, the name applied to it is registered, and that makes it a proprietary article, so that it is not possible for you, as a chemist, to obtain the known, admitted, and approved remedy exemption by stating on the label what the article is composed of.

Cliff (25/47) puts the following case: A. sends a written offer to B. to rent a shop for five years at a rental of 25/- per annum. A. takes possession of the shop, and is meantime carrying on business. B. has not accepted the offer in writing. Can B. enforce A. to implement his offer for the five years? A. intends removing from the shop at the end of the first year, and has given B. notice accordingly. A. has repeatedly verbally asked B. for an acceptance, but failed to get it. What is A.'s position? B. does not even have A.'s signature for the shop, excepting signature on the offer. [By English law, as A.'s offer has not been accepted, there is no contract, and so A. can retract his offer at any time before acceptance. But A. would have to pay B. for the use and occupation of B.'s shop during the period he was in possession. As to the position in Scotland, "Cliff" should consult a local solicitor.]

Manager (19/20) is the manager of and sole employé in a company-chemist's shop, and wants to know (1) whether or not the company will be required to close the shop or give him a weekly half-holiday when the Shops Act comes into force? [As an employé of the company he must get a weekly half-holiday, but it is not necessary that the shop should be closed.] (2) Also if, in the case of a manager, having his meals on the premises, he is compelled to close the shop during the legal meal-time allowance. [The shop does not require to be closed, but the manager must, as an employé, get the meal-times provided in the Act. "Manager" lives on the premises, but the business being that of a limited company he is outside the exemption given to any "shop-assistant" who is "the only person regularly employed in the shop and a member of the family of the occupier of the shop, maintained by him, and dwelling in his house." Limited companies have no families within the meaning of the Act.]

Northern Pharmacist (19/33) writes: "I think it would be useful information to know to what extent a tradesman is liable in selling sealed packages of goods to customers without the opportunity of ascertaining whether those goods are right and good at the time of sale. Instance No. 1: On Saturday night, about 10.30, a woman enters the shop and buys a tin of infants' food, takes it a distance home, and says she could not feed her child with it, as it was rusty. Sunday and Christmas day following, shops were all closed, and could not obtain another supply, and the child could not be fed with its proper and accustomed food during the interval, getting it exchanged for another tin on Tuesday morning. If the child had been sick or had diarrhoea in consequence of enforced change of diet, am I responsible for expenses and damages? In another case this actually happened; the change of food made the child vomit. Instance No. 2: A gentleman buys a bottle of patent medicine not packed by ourselves, tears off the wrapper, breaks the stamp, pours out and drinks a dose, brings back the bottle, holds it out to my assistant, and, in a breath, says: 'This — elixir does not taste the same as I had before: I want another bottle or my money back, or shall immediately place the matter in my solicitor's hands.' Another bottle was promptly supplied, which was not brought back—presumably it was all right—but it was bought at the same time as the other bottle. I should like, and I think the trade would like, to know the legal responsibility we undertake in selling articles which we do not prepare, have no chance to examine, and some of which we cannot judge the quality of." [It would be for a judge or jury to decide whether or not the goods sold were in fact unmerchantable. If they were, the tradesman is liable, even although he is not the manufacturer. It would also be for the judge or jury to decide whether or not any consequential damages are too remote. The tradesman would probably have a right of indemnity against the manufacturer of the goods.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

Chimiste (257/37).—(1) SYNTHETIC CARBOLIC ACID.—The two methods which are commercially possible when carbolic acid is at a high price are Wurtz's process of fusing sodium or potassium benzene-sulphonate with caustic potash, benzene being the starting-point, and Griess's method, in which

phenol is made from aniline by the diazo-reaction. The first process, which is the one to which you refer, is conducted as follows: Pure benzene free from thiophene is placed with about five times its weight of sulphuric acid (670° B.) in closed cast-iron pots provided with stirrers and lead coolers and capable of being heated by a steam-jacket. While the mixture is slowly stirred the vessel is gently heated with steam in such a manner that the vapours of benzene which pass into the cooler are continually returned to the kettle. After several hours the reaction is finished, and the benzene not acted upon is collected as it flows from the cooler. The crude benzene-sulphonic acid, mixed with the excess of sulphuric acid, is allowed to cool and then diluted with warm water in a lead-lined tank. Slaked lime is added until alkaline to remove excess of acid, and the calcium sulphate is separated by means of a filter-press. The clear liquor containing the calcium benzene-sulphonate is treated with sufficient sodium carbonate to precipitate the calcium as carbonate, which is removed by filtration, and the liquor evaporated to dryness. Caustic potash is then melted in a cast-iron kettle, and to it is added in small portions at a time the dry sodium salt prepared as above indicated. The whole is kept in quiet fusion for some time, the melt now containing sodium carbolate and sulphite with excess of caustic alkali. This is ladled from the kettle into pans and allowed to cool, broken up, dissolved in water, and acidified with sulphuric acid. The phenol is liberated, and can be collected and distilled. (2) THE OXIDATION OF STRONG ALCOHOL into acetic acid is similar to that employed in making vinegar by means of oxygen and ferments. More rapid conversion takes place if such substances are used as chromic acid, nitric acid, or spongy platinum. The cost of spongy platinum limits somewhat its employment from a commercial point of view, but it has been stated that in an apparatus containing 17 kilos. of the metal 33 gals. of alcohol can be converted into pure acetic acid daily. It was the last-named process to which reference was made in the article to which you refer. (3) REALGAR is employed as a constituent of blue fire and of white Bengal fire used for signalling. The finest variety, especially that which occurs native, is used as a pigment by artists. Other uses are for removing hair from skins, in making shot, and as a reducing-agent for indigo.

S. & S. (49/4).—ANTI-FOULING COMPOSITIONS FOR SHIPS' BOTTOMS.—The formula given in the *C. & D.*, December 2, index folio 833, was illustrative of the variety which contain mercury and arsenic as the active poisons. Mineral naphtha is employed as the liquid in many paints because of its inexpensiveness. Copper in various forms is much employed because of the fungicidal power of copper. The following illustrate the varieties of the copper compositions:

1.	2. Scott's Paint.
Copper resinate... 2 parts	Verdigris ... 12 lb.
Zinc oxide ... 1 part	Tallow,
Boiled oil ... 1 part	Sulphur,
Gasoline ... 1 part	Resin of each 1 cwt.
Resin ... 1 part	Turpentine ... 1 gal.
Naphtha ... 2½ parts	Mix.

Dissolve the resin in the naphtha, and add the copper resinate, stirring until dissolved; add the boiled oil, thin with the gasoline, and stir in the zinc oxide.

3. Warner & Perry's Paint.—This contains copper oxychloride, iron oxide, red-lead, white arsenic in a medium of resin, shellac, shale naphtha, etc.

4. Delbecke's Varnish-paint.—(a) The insulating coat for iron vessels which is first applied consists of antimony sulphide with small quantities of lead and copper sulphides 3 parts in a basis of denatured alcohol 2 parts and shellac 1 part. (b) The composition next applied consists of electrolytic copper 3 parts, mineral naphtha (distilling at 175°-205° C.) 1 part, rosin oil 1 part.

There is also a process of coppering the bottoms of ships by hammering metallic-copper particles into the prepared surface.

Nemo (10/13).—PUTTY IS SOFTENED by applying a solution of caustic soda alone or mixed with soft soap, the soap being added to prevent the solution drying too soon. Painters prepare the lye by boiling together pearlshes and quicklime. Another way of softening old putty is to apply a hot soldering-iron.

W. G. R. (52/28).—(1) ANNATTO-SEEDS are derived from *Bixa Orclana*, an evergreen plant growing in the East and West Indies and South America. The seeds are embedded

in a pulp similar to that of a tomato, but the capsule containing this is shaped like a large beech-nut. The imported paste is prepared from the pulp and seeds by a fermentation process, but the best butter-colouring is made in this country from the seeds. The seeds vary enormously in colouring-power, and the makers of butter-colouring buy only after testing the tinctorial power of the seeds, or else grow the seeds from the proper variety. Only a small proportion of the seeds that come into the market reach the requirements of the manufacturer, the test applied being to extract the seeds with alcoholic soda, precipitating with hydrochloric acid, drying, and weighing. Some further particulars were given in the *C. & D.*, March 12, 1910, index folio 422. (2) The pamphlet on soya-beans to which you refer could probably be obtained from the Chinese Government, but do you realise that it is issued in Chinese?

W. R. W. (154/40).—MAIL-ORDER BUSINESS.—Since we replied to your inquiry in the *C. & D.*, December 2, index folio 834, our attention has been called to the following book on the subject: Cuddy's "How to do Business by Letter and Advertising" (Constable, 5s.).

Pharmacist (64/7).—HORSE CHAPPING is, we presume, a local term, and we do not know exactly what you mean by it. If it is a case in which the horse has been allowed to stand about and "chap" for hours, owing to itchy legs and heels, give the animal a purge, brush all sand and mud from the legs, wash thoroughly with soft soap and warm water, and, after drying, rub down with a solution of some antiseptic of the cresol type. If, however, you mean chapped or cracked heels, treat the horse as described in "Veterinary Counter-practice."

Curiosa (24/45).—LEAD - AND - SULPHUR HAIR - RESTORER ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," p. 121) has been altered in the ninth edition. It is now as follows:

Acetate of lead ...	3iss.
Milk of sulphur ...	3j.
Glycerin ...	3ij.
Heliotrope perfume ...	3ij.
Water to ...	3x.

The sulphur and the glycerin are considerably reduced in quantity. (1) You can legally state that this preparation "contains no ingredients harmful to the health, and if used as directed it is quite harmless," but we are not prepared to say that "it is not a dye," although we have observed that in some cases, especially in the case of blonde-haired persons, the preparation restores the natural colour, which is quite different from the colour of lead sulphide, to which the restoration is commonly attributed. (2) As to your second question regarding the sale of such preparations, they are not scheduled as poisons in England, and may be sold by any person. (3) The action of silver salts is quite different from that of the lead-and-sulphur preparations. We know of no restorer (not being a dye) approaching the latter in effectiveness. (4) There may be records of injury to health from the use of lead-and-sulphur restorer, but we cannot recall them.

Nostrums (21/56).—THE ALKALINE SALICYLATES are not cumulative in their effect, and it is quite safe to take 15-grain doses of ammonium salicylate two or three times a day. The salt made from physiologically pure acid is quite as safe as that made from natural salicylate acid.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," January 15, 1862.

The Codex.

The French Government has determined to have the Pharmacopoeia completely revised; that at present in use was published in the year 1837. A commission has been appointed to carry out this most important object, and the following list of professors composing it promises well for the execution of the work: M. Dumas, of the "Institut"; M. Grisolle, professor of materia medica and therapeutics; M. Regnault, professor of pharmacology; M. Tardien, professor of legal medicine; M. Wurtz, professor of medical chemistry—all of the Faculty of Paris; M. Bussy, professor of chemistry; M. Chatin, professor of botany; M. Guibourt, professor of natural history; M. Le Canu, professor of pharmacy—all of the High School of Pharmacy of Paris; and MM. Petit and Mourier, high officers under the Minister of Public Instruction. To these are added as a consulting council three eminent members of the Imperial Academy of Medicine—MM. Robinet, Boudet, and Goble—and MM. Mayet and Mialhe, pharmacists, of Paris.